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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE

OF
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
OF CANADA,

AT
SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS,

Held at Strathroy, 18th August, A. L. 5875; Toronto, 19th August, A. L. 5875;
London, 29th September, A. L. 5875; Dover, 12th October, A. L. 5875;
Belleville 17th November, A. L. 5875; Bethany, 24th May, A. L.
5876; Kingston, 24th May, A. L. 5876; Frankford, 22nd June.
A. L. 5876; Guelph, 1st July, A. L. 5876; Ridgetown.
1st July, A. L. 5876; Onondaga, 1st July,
A. L. 5876; and Foxboro, 6th July.
A. L. 5876;

ALSO, AT THE

Twenty-First Annual Communication,

HELD AT THE CITY OF OTTAWA,

ON THE

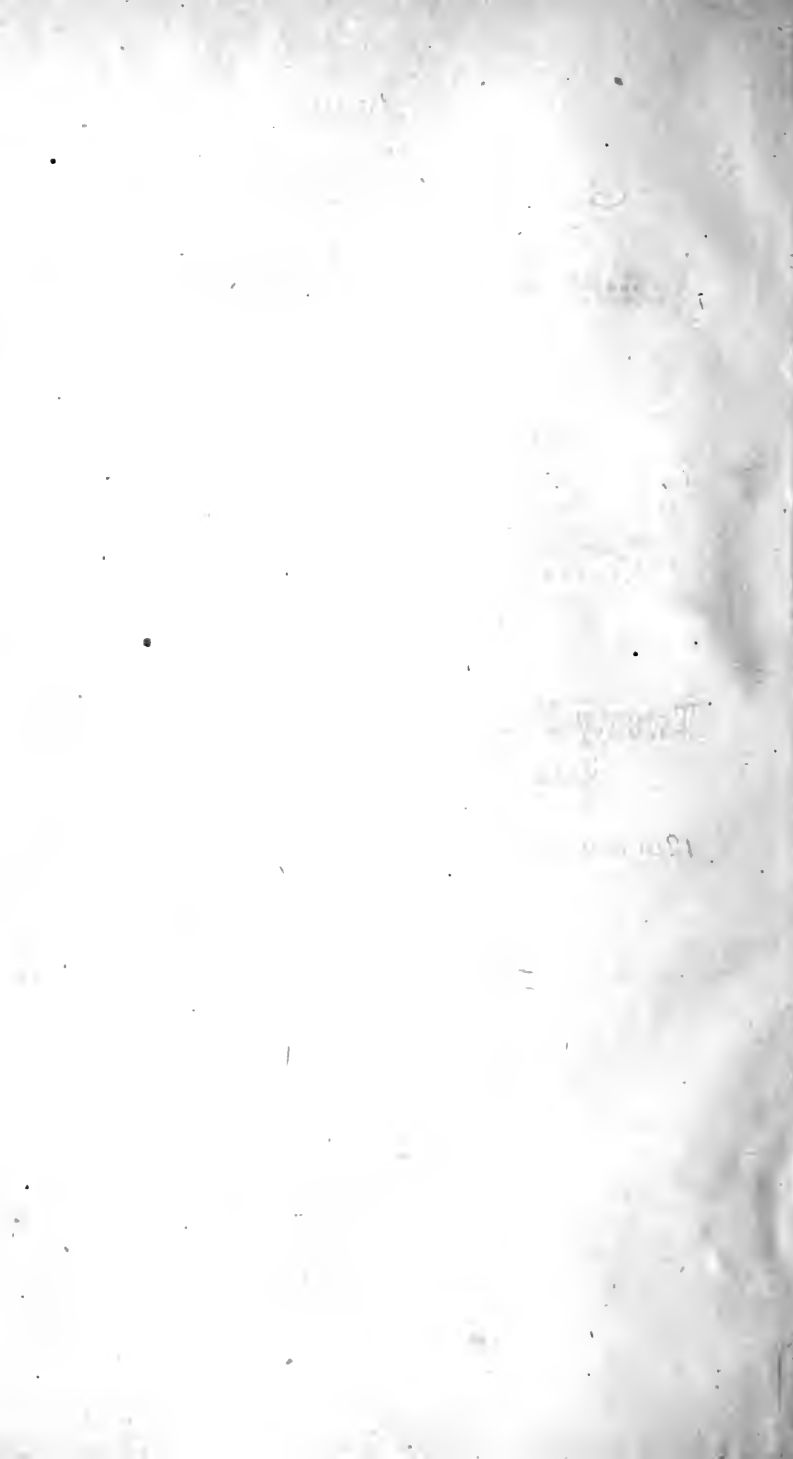
12th and 13th Days of July, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.



ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL LODGES AND PRESERVED.

TIMES PRINTING COMPANY, HAMILTON, ONT.

1876.



Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Town of Strathroy, on Wednesday the 18th day of August, A. D. 1875, A. L. 5875.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro.	W. D. McGlothon,	as Grand Master.
" "	D. B. Burch,	" Deputy Grand Master.
" "	F. Westlake,	" Grand Senior Warden.
" "	George Billington,	" " Junior "
" "	Rev. F. W. Raikes,	" " Chaplain.
" "	James Noble,	" " Treasurer.
" "	A. Jamieson,	" " Secretary.
" "	J. M. Banghart,	" " Senior Deacon.
V. "	William Hayden,	" " Junior "
" "	W. W. Hoare,	" " Sup't of Works.
" "	Thos. Richardson,	" " Director of Cer.
" "	C. Mole,	" " Sword Bearer.
" "	Joseph Wilson,	" " Organist.
" "	N. J. Lindsay,	" " Pursuivant.
" "	J. R. Peel, as	} - - Grand Stewards.
" "	H. G. Lindsay, as	
" "	W. Bettridge, as	
" "	F. J. Hood, as	
" "	W. J. Johnston,	as Grand Tyler.

Together with Masters, Past Masters, and brethren hailing from London, Lucan, Watford, Mt. Brydges, Komoka, Lambeth, Glencoe, Strathroy and other places.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in ~~form~~ at 3.30 P.M., in the Lodge Room of Beaver Lodge No. 83., R. W. Bro. McGloghlon stated that he had been empowered by the M. W. the Grand Master, to perform the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the church of St. John the Evangelist (Episcopal), about to be erected in Strathroy.

The Church when completed will be 105 ft. long by 46 in width. The nave will be 80 ft. which with an addition of 25 ft. for chancel, gallery and organ loft, make as stated, 105 ft. entire length. There will be a basement story under the nave for Sabbath School purposes, capable of accommodating 300 scholars. The auditory when completed will seat 500 people. The site is the same as that of the old church, namely, west side Head Street. A graceful spire will rise from the front, and the style and proportions of the whole will be in complete harmony. At present only a section is being erected, including the chancel, gallery and organ loft, and about 40 feet of the nave, which will be joined on the old church, so that it can be utilized for a time in connection with the new section. The portion now being erected will cost about \$4,000, and when the whole is completed the cost will be about \$12,000.

A procession was formed in accordance with the regulation as laid down in the book of Constitution, and preceded by the Band of the 26th Battalion, proceeded to the site of the Church, when the Acting Grand Master delivered the following address to the large assemblage of persons who were present to witness the ceremony:

Men and brethren here assembled be it known unto you, that we be lawful Masons, true and faithful to the laws of our country, and established of old with peace and honor in most countries, to do good to our brethren and fellow men, to assist in the erection of buildings, and to fear God the Great Architect of the Universe. We have among us concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which have never been found out: but these secrets are honorable, and not repugnant to the law of God or man. They were entrusted in peace and honor.

to the Free Masons of ancient times, and having been faithfully transmitted to us, it is our duty to convey them unimpaired to the latest posterity. Unless our craft were good, and our calling honorable, we should not have lasted for so many centuries, nor should we have been honored with the patronage of so many illustrious men in all ages, who have ever shown themselves ready to promote our interests, and defend us from all adversaries. We are assembled here to-day in the face of you all to build a house which we pray God may deserve to prosper, by becoming a place of concourse for good men, and by promoting harmony and brotherly love throughout the world, till time shall be no more.

A hymn having been sung, Bro. the Rev. F. W. Raikes, acting Grand Chaplain, offered up a prayer.

The acting Grand Secretary then read the following scrolls :

On behalf of the Masonic Fraternity.

"In the name of and by the favor of the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, on this 18th day of August, 1875, and of the era of Freemasonry, Anno Lucis, 5875, and in the thirty-ninth year of the reign of our Most Gracious Sovereign Victoria, Queen of Great Britain, Ireland, India, and the dependencies of Europe, Asia, Africa, the Dominion of Canada, Australia, &c., &c.; the Right Honorable Sir Frederick Temple, Earl of Dufferin, K. P., K. C. B. &c. being Governor-General of Canada; the Right Hon. D. A. Macdonald being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario; and Hon. Alexander Mackenzie being Minister of Public Works, and Premier of the Dominion of Canada; R. C. Scatcherd, Mayor of Strathroy; this Corner Stone of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, erected by the Rev. J. Smythe and congregation, of the Town of Strathroy, (which may the Great Architect of the Universe protect and prosper,) was laid by the Right Wor. Bro. W. D. McGloghlon, D. D. G. M. London District, under dispensation granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, James K. Kerr Esq., assisted by the Grand Officers and a large concourse of Masons, at request of Beaver Lodge No. 83., of which Archd. Jamieson is W. M., Chas. Mole, S. W., J. Irwin, J. W., John R. Clark, Secretary, J. Noble, Treas., Contractor, Joseph Wilson. God save the Queen."

On behalf of the Church Wardens and the Congregation.

"In the name of Eternal Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost. This 18th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1875, Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen; Lord Dufferin K. C. B. Governor-General of Canada; R. C. Scatcherd, Esq., Mayor of Strathroy, Ontario; Isaac Hellmuth, Bishop of the Diocese; Rev. J. Smythe, M. A., Rector of the Parish; Robt. Bentley, Esq., Major J. English. Geo. Francis, P. J. Alison, and R. Dumbrill, Building Committee; Mr. Joseph Wilson, Contractor and Builder. The Corner Stone of this Church of St. John the Evangelist, Strathroy, Ontario, was Laid with Masonic ceremonies by R. Wor. W. D. McGloghlon, D. D. G. M., A. F. & A. M. of London District.

Which, with copies of the local and other papers and the current coin of the Dominion, and other matters enclosed in a box, were deposited in the cavity of the stone.

The Rev. J. Smythe, M. A., on behalf of the congregation, then handed the Acting Grand Master a silver trowel, with which he spread the cement, and the stone was lowered to its place with the usual ceremonies.

The Procession then re-formed and repaired, by invitation, to the beautiful grounds belonging to Mr. L. Dumbrill, where a bountiful supply of refreshments had been prepared by the ladies of the congregation.

Subsequently the brethren returned to the Lodge Room and Grand Lodge was closed in *Form*.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the City of Toronto, on Thursday the 19th day of August, A. D. 1875, A. L. 5875.

PRESENT:

M. W. Bro. James K. Kerr, Grand Master,

On the Throne.

R. W. Bro.	Daniel Spry,	as Deputy Grand Master.
" "	W. D. McGloghlon,	D. D. G. M.
" "	John McLaren,	" " " "
" "	R. P. Stephens,	" Grand Senior Warden.
V. "	F. J. Menet,	" " Junior "
	Rev. W. H. Jones,	" " Chaplain.
R. "	J. E. Brooke,	" " Treasurer.
" "	J. G. Burns,	" Registrar.
" "	J. J. Mason,	" Secretary.
V. "	G. H. Dartnell,	" Senior Deacon.
" "	G. Hodgetts,	" " Junior "
" "	J. D. Henderson,	" " Sup't of Works.
" "	Seymour Porter,	" " Director of Cer.
" "	J. M. Rogerson,	" Asst. Grand Secretary.
" "	R. J. Hovenden,	" " Dir. of Cer.
" "	William Forbes,	Grand Sword Bearer.
" "	George Chanter,	" " Organist.

	W. Bro. James Chanter,	as Grand Pursuivant.
	“ John Dixon,	“ Tyler.
V. “	“ Robert King,	} - - Grand Stewards.
“ “	“ G. Mansfield,	
“ “	“ Robert Robinson, as	
“ “	“ G. R. Vanzant, as	
“ “	“ G. C. Patterson, as	
“ “	“ Thomas Langton, as	
“ “	“ James Speight, as	
“ “	“ George Watson, as	
“ “	“ Andrew Smith, as	

Together with Masters, Past Masters and Brethren hailing from the following Lodges, viz.: St. John's 3, Kingston; Barton 6, Hamilton; Union 7, Grimsby; St. Andrews 16, Toronto; King Solomon's 22, Toronto; Ionic 25, Toronto; Strict Observance 27, Hamilton; Composite 30, Whitby; Mount Zion 39, Brooklin; Wellington 46, Chatham; Dalhousie 52, Ottawa; Rehoboam 65, Toronto; St. John's 75, Toronto; Albion 80, Newbury; Clinton 84, Clinton; Wilson 86, Toronto; Markham Union 87, Markham; Corinthian 96, Barrie; Tuscan 99, Newmarket; Richardson 136, Stouffville; York 156, Eglinton; St. Albans 200, Mount Forest; Stevenson 218, Toronto; Ashlar 247, Yorkville; Thistle 250, Embro; Northern Light 266, Stayner; Brougham Union 269, Brougham; Humber 305, Weston; Doric 316, Toronto; Zetland 326, Toronto; Zetland 9, Liverpool, N. S.; Temple 14, Albany, N. Y.; Roman Eagle 160, R. S.

The Grand Lodge was opened in *Ample Form* at noon, in the Masonic Hall, Toronto Street, and from thence the brethren, preceded by the Band of the 10th Royals Regiment of Volunteers, marched in procession to the site of the proposed edifice, to be called Grace Church (Episcopal), situated on the South Side of Elm Street, Toronto.

The front of the procession having reached the site, a halt was made, and the ranks opened out and faced inwards, when

the Grand Master, supported by the Grand Officers, passed through to the north-east corner, where a platform had been erected for their convenience.

A Hymn—"The Church's one Foundation," having been sung, and a prayer having been offered by Bro. the Rev. W. H. Jones, acting Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master delivered the following

ADDRESS.

MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN NOW ASSEMBLED :

I rejoice to greet this large concourse assembled to give countenance to our proceedings, and to witness the manner in which we shall to-day take the part which our ancient and honorable fraternity has taken in the erection of stately and superb edifices, in ages gone by, from time immemorial.

We have, peculiar to our Order, secrets which are withheld from all other men, which no man has ever discovered and that may not be revealed. But whilst we withhold such secrets, be assured that they are lawful, honorable and instructive, and in testimony of this we can point with confidence to the position which the Craft has ever enjoyed in the estimation of men, and I may boldly claim that if any of our tenets were not lawful, honorable and useful, so many loyal, illustrious and enlightened brethren throughout the length and breadth of the civilized world, would not have been enrolled under our banners; eminent statesmen and distinguished scholars have always been found amongst our numbers, and from the days of the Royal Solomon to the present day, even monarchs distinguished as well for their wisdom as for the propriety of their conduct, have not thought it derogatory to dignity to exchange the sceptre for the gavel, and to lay aside the robes of royalty for the lambskin apron of a Freemason.

At the request of the Rector and Church Wardens, I have convened the present meeting of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, for the purpose of assisting in the ceremony of laying the corner stone of this new church.

I am always glad to have the opportunity of taking part in a ceremony which in itself is always interesting, but it gives me special pleasure to be present to-day to take some part in laying the corner-stone of the new church which is about to be erected here to supply the very great wants that have been felt to exist in the community of this newly formed parish. I congratulate the members of the congregation on the spirit and energy displayed towards the erection of so handsome an edifice, and one which must be productive of so much good to the community. The Masonic fraternity have of themselves played no unimportant part in the laying of the corner stones of edifices of one kind or another, and there is no undertaking they enter upon with more pleasure than participating in the

erection of an edifice designed for the promotion of religious truths and the glory of the great Architect of the Universe. I regret that I can only address you with difficulty, but I trust that another opportunity will present itself when I will be able to speak to you on the relations which the Masonic fraternity occupy towards not only each member of the congregation of this new church but towards those who are not members of that congregation. Before proceeding with the ceremony I will call on our reverend brother to offer up a prayer to the great Architect for His blessing on our proceedings.

The Grand Master was then presented with a beautifully engraved silver trowel, with ivory handle, of very chaste workmanship. The trowel bore the following inscription: "Used by James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M., of Canada, in laying the corner stone of Grace Church, Toronto, August 19th, 1875. Rev. William Henry Jones, M. A., Rector, Thomas Kennedy, George Loveys, Wardens."

The stone having been properly prepared, R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, read the scroll to be deposited in the stone; and the Grand Treasurer having deposited in the cavity the various coins, &c., the stone was gradually lowered to its proper position to the accompaniment of music from the band.

The Grand Wardens and Deputy Grand Master having proved the stone to be properly placed, the Grand Master declared it was, "well laid, truly made, well proven, true and trusty."

The plans of the building were then inspected by the Grand Master, and being approved of, he handed them back to the architect, congratulating the members of the congregation and their rector on the beautiful structure about to be erected in their midst. He then poured corn, wine, and oil on the stone, as emblems of plenty, joy and cheerfulness, comfort and consolation.

The ceremony having been completed, the Grand Master again congratulated those present on the commencement of so important a work as that in which they had taken part, and

the members of the congregation upon the energy which had been manifested by them. He congratulated the citizens on the commencement of a work that was calculated to do so much good in this city—a city that has justly been denominated the “City of Churches,” and where one more sacred edifice was about to be erected. After a few further remarks, the Grand Master called on the rector of the new Church to address those present.

Bro. the Rev. Wm. Henry Jones thanked the Grand Master and the brethren of the Grand Lodge for the kindness shown in coming forward and assisting in the present important work. He had no desire to take up their time in making a speech, for he did not deem it the proper time and place for him to make any extended remarks in reference to the cause which had called them together. He had great pleasure, therefore, in asking the Rev. Mr. Darling, with whom nearly all the inhabitants of the parish were familiar from his labors among them for many years, to address them.

Rev. W. S. Darling briefly addressed the assembly, referring to the great pleasure he experienced in being present, and expressing his desire to do all that lay in his power to promote and forward the work already begun. He urged them all to put their shoulders to the wheel and endeavor to forward the good work.

The Grand Master then announced that a collection would be taken up for the benefit of the building fund of the new church, and he trusted that all would give this substantial token of their aid in a liberal manner.

The procession then reformed and marched by way of Yonge, Gould, and Church Streets to the Music Hall, where refreshments had been provided for the brethren.

Subsequently the members of the Grand Lodge returned to

the Masonic Hall, where the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form with solemn prayer.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the City of London, on Wednesday, the 29th day of September, A. D. 1875, A. L. 5875.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. James K. Kerr, Grand Master

On the Throne.

R. W. Bro. W. D. McGlochlou, as Deputy Grand Master.

“ “ “ Geo. S. Birrell, Grand Senior Warden.

“ “ “ T. C. Macnabb, “ “ Junior “

“ “ “ Rev. F. W. Raikes, “ “ Chaplain.

“ “ “ D. B. Burch, “ “ Treasurer.

“ “ “ F. Westlake, “ “ Registrar.

“ “ “ J. J. Mason, “ “ Secretary.

V. “ “ I. Waterman, “ “ Senior Deacon.

“ “ “ Jos. Rippon, “ “ Junior “

“ “ “ J. R. Peel, “ “ Sup't of Works.

“ “ “ H. A. Baxter, “ “ Director of Cer.

“ “ “ W. Thornton, “ Assistant Grand Secretary.

“ “ “ E. K. Slater, “ “ “ Dir. of Cer.

“ “ “ C. Richardson, “ Grand Sword Bearer.

“ “ “ C. A. Sippi, “ “ Organist.

“ “ “ St. John Hyttenrauch, Assis't Grand Organist.

Bro. W. W. Fitzgerald,	"	"	Pursuivant.
" F. J. Hood,	"	"	Tyler.
V. W. Bro. Geo. Mansfield.			
" " W. Hayden,			
" " W. Fleming, as			
" " T. H. Tracy, as			
" " W. D. Hammond, as			
" " W. G. Vanstaden, as			Grand Stewards.
" " Henry Adams, as			
" " J. Edgecomb, as			
" " F. R. Powell, as			

Together with Masters, Past Masters, and Brethren hailing from the following Lodges, viz : St. Andrew's 16, Toronto ; St John's 20, London ; Strict Observance 27, Hamilton ; St. George's 42, London ; St. Thomas 44, St. Thomas ; Wellington 46, Chatham ; Kilwinning 64, London ; Oxford 76, Woodstock ; Albion 80, Newbury ; Beaver 83, Strathroy ; St. Paul's 107, Lambeth ; Prince of Wales' 171, Iona ; Bothwell 179, Bothwell ; Belmont 190, Belmont ; Tuscan 195, London ; St. John's 209 a, London ; Thistle 250, Embro ; Lorne 282, Glencoe ; Doric 289, Lobo ; The Hammond 327, Wardsville ; Corinthian 330, London East.

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

R. W. Bro. M. F. Mott, Deputy Grand Master of Texas.

The Grand Lodge was opened in *Ample Form* at high twelve in the Masonic Hall, Richmond Street, and from thence the brethren marched in procession, preceded by the Band of the 7th Battalion of Volunteers, to the site of the proposed Methodist Episcopal Church, on the corner of North and Colborne Streets. The front of the procession having reached the site, a halt was made and the ranks opened out and faced inwards, when the Grand Master, supported by the Grand Officers passed through to the northeast

corner, where a platform had been erected for their convenience.

After a few preliminary observations, the Grand Master referred to the close connection of masonry with religion, and the very great antiquity of the former, which dated back to Solomon's Temple. Masonry was not a religion. It was an handmaid thereto, and succeeded in blending men of different nationalities, religious and political ideas, into one grand organization, where men, no matter what their creed, could "meet on the level and part on the square." He concluded by an allusion to the beneficence and tolerance of masonry.

After which a silver trowel was presented to him, and the ceremonies of laying the stone were proceeded with in the usual manner.

The ceremony being concluded, the pastor of the church, Bro. the Rev. M. A. Wright, read a portion of Scripture, following it with a prayer and a collection. The proceedings were brought to a close with the announcement of a concert, which was to be held in the City Hall in the evening, but which owing to the severe storm which occurred at the hour for opening, it was deemed advisable to postpone until a future evening.

The new structure is to be built of brick, at a cost of \$10,000. In size it will be 86 feet long by 45 feet wide, with basement, which will be lighted by five windows. The height of the building from the foundation will be 60 feet, and it is to seat 700 persons. It is admirably situated, and will prove a lasting ornament to that portion of the city.

The procession then re-formed and returned to the Lodge

Room, when the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form with solemn prayer.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at Dover East, near Chatham, on Tuesday, October 12th, A. L. 5875, A. D. 1875.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro.	Thomas C. Macnabb,	Acting Grand Master.
" "	William Carruthers,	as Deputy Grand Master.
" "	John H. Luscomb,	" Grand Senior Warden.
" "	B. L. Chipman,	" " Junior "
" "	The Rev. H. Bartlett,	" " Chaplain.
W. "	E. E. Chipman,	" " Registrar.
" "	James Marquand,	" " Treasurer.
" "	M. Houston,	" " Secretary.
" "	W. L. Tackaberry,	" " Senior Deacon.
" "	J. B. Rankin,	" " Junior "
" "	J. Dalgarno,	" " Sup't of Works.
W. "	H. J. Eberts,	" " Director of Cer.
" "	Charles Crofts,	" " Pursuivant.
" "	A. B. Baxter,	" " Tyler.
" "	J. A. Morton,	} as Grand Stewards.
" "	W. T. Bray,	

And the Masters, Past Masters, and brethren hailing from Wellington Lodge 46, Tecumseh Lodge 245, Parthenon Lodge 267, Kent Lodge 274, and others.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in *Form* at 1 o'clock p. m., R. W. Bro. T. C. Macnabb stated that he had been empowered by the M. W. the Grand Master, to perform the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of St. Thomas' Church (Episcopal), about to be erected in Dover East.

A procession was then formed under the direction of the Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies and marched to the Rankin Wharf, where the steamer *Steinhoff* was in waiting to convey the Grand Lodge to the site of the Church. The Band of the Fire Department, and many friends of the Church, other than Masons, were on board, and a few minutes sail brought the party to their destination, where a large number of the people were assembled to bid them welcome.

The brethren having assembled, and taken their positions, the Acting Grand Master addressed the Assembly, and the Acting Grand Chaplain invoked the blessing of the G. A. O. T. U. on the undertaking.

Bro. Houston, Acting Grand Secretary, read the following scroll :

"In the name and by the favor of the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, on the 12th day of October, A. D. 1875, and of the Masonic era 5875; and in the 39th year of the reign of our Gracious Sovereign VICTORIA, Queen of Great Britain, Ireland and the Colonies; the Right Hon. Sir Frederick Temple, Earl of Dufferin, K. P., K. C. B., &c., Governor-General of the Dominion; Lieutenant-General O'Grady Haley, being Administrator in the absence of the Governor-General; the Hon. Donald A. Macdonald, being Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario; Hon. Alex. Macenzie, being Minister of Public Works and Premier of the Dominion; Hon. Oliver Mowat, Attorney-General and Premier of the Province of Ontario; James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Grand Master A. F. & A. Masons of Canada; Rev. Freeman Harding, Rector of the Parish—this foundation stone of St. Thomas Church, erected in the Township of Dover East was laid by R. W. Bro. Thomas C. Macnabb, D. D. G. M., St. Clair District, Acting Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers of Grand Lodge, and a large concourse of brethren, in accordance with the ceremonies and usages of the Order. Which may T. G. A. O. T. U. ever protect and prosper."

After the scroll had been read, it was enclosed in a glass bottle, with copies of the *Banner*, *Globe*, *Mail*, *Canadian*,

Huron Recorder, and *Planet*; a paper with the names of the Bishop of the Diocese. Archdeacon of Kent, Rector of the Parish, the Building Committee, and of the petitioners for erection of the Church; specimens of the silver coins of the Dominion, &c., the whole being deposited in the cavity of the stone.

The Acting Grand Master was then presented with a massive silver trowel, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to R. W. Bro. Thomas C. Nacnabb, D. D. G. M., St. Clair District, on occasion of laying the corner stone St. Thomas Church, Dover." After receiving the trowel, the Acting Grand Master made a few appropriate remarks, and proceeded to spread the mortar on which to lay the stone.

The stone was then lowered to its place with the usual ceremonies.

The formal proceedings of the day being concluded, the ladies connected with the congregation invited all present to partake of refreshments—which, after a few hours in the open air, facing a bracing wind, were most acceptable, and were enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Before leaving, Bro. the Rev. H. Bartlett proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies for their kindness in providing such a delectable feast, a proposition which was carried unanimously. A vote of thanks to the Masonic Fraternity was next passed, after which W. Bro. Eberts spoke for a few minutes, giving some interesting particulars of the life of the late Miss Ann Smith, through whose generosity the Church in Dover was established.

The Brethren and friends then re-embarked on the *Steinhoff*, arriving home at 6 o'clock.

The procession was then reformed and returned to the Masonic Hall.

A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Steinhoff for his liber-

ality in conveying Grand Lodge to and from the Church, and Grand Lodge was then closed in form.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Town of Belleville, on Wednesday the 17th day of November, A. D. 1875, A. L. 5875.

PRESENT.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, Acting Grand Master.

" "	"	Donald Ross,	as	Deputy Grand Master.
" "	"	A. A. Campbell,	" "	Senior Warden.
" "	"	S. S. Lazier,	" "	Junior "
	"	Rev. A. Campbell,	" "	Chaplain.
	"	W. L. Hamilton,	" "	Treasurer.
" "	"	J. J. Mason,	"	Secretary.
"	"	John McKeown,	" "	Senior Deacon.
"	"	D Pitceathly,	" "	Junior "
"	"	W. Doctor,	" "	Sup't of Works.
"	"	Alfred Ellis,	" "	Director of Cer.
	"	W. J. Palmer,	" "	Organist.
	"	Alfred Baker,	" "	Pursuivant.
	"	D. Urquhart,	" "	Tyler.
	"	Flint, as	} - - -	Grand Stewards.
	"	Brignal, as		
	"	Atkins, as		
	"	Donnelly, as		
	"	Newbery, as		
	"	Northcott, as		

Assisted by a number of Brethren from the following Lodges : Moira, No. 11 ; The Belleville, No. 123 ; Franck, No. 127 ; Marmora, No. 222 ; Tweed, No. 239 ; Quinte, No. 241 ; Mystic, 278 ; Eureka, No. 283, and others.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in *Due Form*, R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller. stated that he had been empowered by the M. W., the Grand Master, to perform the ceremony of laying the Corner Stone of the Methodist Episcopal Tabernacle, about to be erected in Belleville.

The new Church is intended to accommodate 1,200 persons ; and the total cost, is estimated at from 26,000 to 30,000 dollars.

The building will have an area of between 6,000 and 7,000 superficial feet. the size is 78x80, height of walls 36 feet. The Lecture and Sunday School Room in the rear will be 40x70, with four Class Rooms. The main Tower will be 165 feet in height, 20 feet square, red brick, with free stone caps, and in it is intended to be erected Memorial Tablets to the late Bishops of the M. E. Church, namely : Bishop Reynolds, Bishop Alley, Bishop Smith, Bishop Richardson.

The Students of Albert and Alexandra Colleges will have the privilege of naming this tower.

The site is the most commanding in the place, and the building will be seen for many miles.

The building when completed will be an ornament to the Town ; a credit to the Church in Belleville, and an honor to the M. E. body in Canada.

A procession was formed in accordance with the regulation as laid down in the book of Constitution, and proceeded to the site of the Church, when the Acting Grand Master delivered the following address to the large assemblage of persons who were present to witness the ceremony :

Men, women and children here assembled to-day, know all of you that we are true and lawful Masons, obedient to the laws of our country, and established of old with peace and honor in most countries, and to do good to our brethren, and fellow men, to assist in the erection of buildings,

and to fear God, who is the Great Architect and Ruler of Heaven and Earth. It is true we have among us certain secrets, but these secrets are neither dishonorable nor unlawful—and unless our Craft were good and our calling honest we should not have existed for so many centuries nor numbered among the Craftsmen so many illustrious, noble and truly good men ever ready to sanction our proceedings and contribute to our prosperity.

The true principles of Masonry have ever been open to the study of all, and to-day remain unchanged by the lapse of time, or the assaults of our opponents. Universal Charity is the foundation, morality and virtue the walls, and brotherly love the cement of the Masonic edifice, and while charity, virtue and brotherly love are esteemed among men the edifice cannot crumble to pieces.

From time immemorial it has been customary wherever Masons have been held in good repute to seek their assistance at the erection of buildings of a public character—and on no occasion have Masons more cheerfully rendered such assistance than at the erection of an edifice to be devoted to the worship of God—the promulgation of His just, wise and beneficial laws, and the proclaiming His most inexhaustible mercies.

We have been requested by the clergyman and Building Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Congregation, to lay the corner stone of this Church, and by the direction of the Grand Master, I have convened here to-day a special meeting of Grand Lodge to perform that ceremony according to the Ancient usages and established customs among Masons.

As Masons bound to obey the moral and civil law, to fear God, to honor the Queen and assist in the preservation of peace and good order among men, we feel that it is peculiarly fitting that we should assist at the inception of a building intended for the public worship of the Most High, and the propagation of that religion which bringeth 'peace on earth and good-will to all men.'

Masonry deals with not any particular form of religious belief; claiming only human origin, human aims and purposes, it can at best be but the handmaid of religion, and must perforce by the true Craftsman be held secondary to his religious belief and his obedience to the laws of his country.

To you, Reverend Sir, and the Building Committee of this Church, I must say that you are to be commended for the zeal and energy you have displayed in undertaking the erection of this building, which, when completed, will not only be a commodious place of worship, but will also, as I see by the design submitted to me, prove an ornament to the town in whose prosperity we are all so much interested.

We sincerely trust that you may in every way be able fully to carry out your designs, and that this building may ever be a place for good deeds and the promotion of Christianity and brotherly love.

Bro. the Rev. A. Campbell, Acting Grand Chaplain, then offered up a prayer, after which the Grand Secretary read the following scroll :

In the name
and by the favor of the
Glorious Architect of the Universe,
in the 39th year of the reign of our Gracious
Sovereign VICTORIA, Queen of Great Britain and
Ireland, &c.

JAMES KIRKPATRICK KERR, Esquire,
Grand Master, Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M.
of Canada.

His Excellency Right Honorable
the EARL OF DUFFERIN, K. P., K. C. B.
Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada.
Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario,
the Honorable D. A. MACDONALD.

The Corner Stone of the Methodist Episcopal Tabernacle of Belleville was laid by R. W. Bro. W. H. WELLER, D. G. M., assisted by the Grand Officers and a large concourse of the brethren, on Wednesday the Seventeenth day of November, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-five, and the Officers were:

PASTOR—The Reverend Amos Campbell.

TRUSTEES OF CHURCH IN BELLEVILLE—Sylvester Ostrom, Cephas Peterson, Samuel Sills, and Elijah Goldsmith.

STEWARDS—John Wesley Shoults, Elijah Goldsmith, Theodore Spafford, George Goldsmith, Edward Bosley, and John MacMullen.

CLASS LEADERS—John MacNeal and William Minore.

LOCAL PREACHERS—William Jarvis Maybee, and Stephen A. Arkels.

These are the members of the Quarterly Meeting Conference.

BUILDING COMMITTEE—James G. Robinson, John Row, Samuel Barton Burdett, L. L. B., Samuel Sills, William B. Robinson, John MacMullen, and Sidney MacMullen. *

The Communicants of said Church number CCL., 250. The scholars attending the Sunday School CL., 150.

The erection of the Church is computed to cost Thirty Thousand Dollars currency, MMM, \$30,000. And the cost of the land whereon it will be built is MCCC, \$1,300. And the name of the Contractor is Edward Lang. And the name of the Architect is C. W. Mulligan, of Hamilton.

The Trowel with which this Corner Stone is laid was presented by Mrs. Mary Ann Row, wife of John Row, Esq. And the names of those who have contributed to this building, prior to this day, have been written on paper and enclosed with this account.

The M. E. Church in Belleville is situated in the Ontario Annual Conference of the M. E. Church.

The Annual Conferences are three in number, the most easterly being called the Bay of Quinte, and the most westerly Niagara.

The General Conference composed of delegates from each Annual Conference met at Napanee on the twenty-sixth day of August A. D., MDCCCLXXIV, and will in due course meet at Belleville on the fourth Tuesday in August A. D., MDCCCLXXVIII. The officers of it are as follows: The Rev. Albert Carman, Doctor in Divinity, Bishop; Rev. Michael Benson, Secretary; Rev. Francis B. Stratton, Assistant Secretary; Rev. James Gardiner, Missionary Secretary; Rev. Samuel Goldsmith Stone, editor of the *Advocate*.

The officers of the Ontario Conference of the M. E. Church are the Rev. A. Carman, D. D., Bishop; the Rev. James Curtis, Secretary; the Rev. Thomas Argue, Missionary Treasurer; the Rev. George Miller, Secretary of the Missionary Society. The number of Ministers in this Conference is LXXI., (71); and the Minutes of the General and Annual Conferences are here enclosed, and the members in communion are twenty-three thousand and twelve in the whole church, (23,012.)

In the Town of Belleville and in the Ontario Annual Conference is situated Albert College and University, under the control of the church.

The Calendar for the year MDCCCLXXV, is here enclosed. The officers are as follows: The Rev. Albert Carman, D. D., Chancellor of the University; the Rev. Jabez Robert Jaques, D. D., Ph. D., President of College; the Reverend Erastus Irvine Badgley, B. D., Registrar of Senate. The number of Professors in the College is nine, (IX, 9.) The graduates on the roll are: Doctors, two, (II, 2); Masters ten, (X, 10); Bachelors in Divinity one, (I, 1); in Laws five, (V, 5); in Arts, thirty-one, (XXXI, 31) Under-graduates seventy-five, (LXXV, 75.)

The Town of Belleville is situated in the County of Hastings and in the Province of Ontario, and the Officers are as follows: William A. Foster, Mayor; Robert Newbery, Town Clerk; Robert Tannahill, Treasurer; Abraham Diamond, Esq., Barrister, Police Magistrate; Allan T. Petrie, Chief of Police; Richard Taylor, Street Surveyor; Dunham Ockerman, Collector.

And there are enclosed herewith of the current year the Holy Bible, Hymn Book, the discipline of the M. E. Church, minutes of the Town. Expenditure, the *Canada Christian Advocate*, the *Daily Intelligencer*, the *Daily Ontario*, the *Daily Globe*, the *Daily Mail*, of Toronto, the *Montreal Witness*, coins of the Dominion, the Missionary Report of the M. E. Church, MDCCCLXX.

The following are the officers of the Ladies' Church Aid Society: Mrs. Lydia McKay, President; Mrs. Elizabeth Robinson, Treasurer; Mrs. Samantha Walker, Secretary.

Mrs. John Row then handed the Acting Grand Master a fine silver trowel, with which he spread the cement, and the stone was lowered to its place with the usual ceremonies.

The procession was then re-formed and returned to the

Masonic Hall, when Grand Lodge was closed with prayer in
Due Form.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Village of Bethany, on Wednesday, the 24th day of May, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. James K. Kerr, Grand Master.

On the Throne.

R. W. Bro.	John Wright,	as Deputy Grand Master.
" "	E. Peplow, Jr.,	D. D. G. M. Ont. Dis't.
" "	R. Kincaid,	" Grand Senior Warden.
" "	R. J. Winch,	" " Junior "
" "	Rev. C. W. Paterson,	" " Chaplain.
" "	J. B. Bickell,	" " Registrar.
" "	J. B. Traves,	" " Secretary.
" "	Henry Turner,	" " Senior Deacon.
" "	C. Doebler,	" " Junior "
V. "	James Might,	" " Director of Cer.
" "	D. McNaughton.	" " Pursuivant.
" "	A. H. Melville, as	- - Grand Stewards.
" "	W. T. Lockhart, as	
" "	W. Milne, as	
" "	Peter Begg, as	" Grand Tyler.
" "	George Reading,	

Together with a large number of brethren hailing from Port Hope, Lindsay, Peterborough, Millbrook, and other places.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in the Town Hall in *Ample Form*, the Grand Master stated that this especial Communication of Grand Lodge had been convened for the purpose of assisting him in laying the corner stone of St. Paul's Church (Episcopal), about to be erected in Bethany.

A procession was formed in accordance with the regulation as laid down in the Book of Constitution, and proceeded to the site of the Church, when the Sunday School children having sung "God Save the Queen," the Grand Master delivered the following address to the large assembly of persons who were present to witness the ceremony.

Men, Women and Children here assembled :

It was to me a source of great pleasure to be able to accede to the request of the incumbent and church wardens of this parish, to call a meeting of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the building soon to be erected upon the spot upon which we stand ; and now that we have assembled before you, I take this opportunity of making a few observations with reference to ourselves, and the Order to which we have the honor to belong. We are Masons, free and accepted, and it may not be out of place for me to say a word or two regarding our tenets, and the characteristics which distinguish us from the rest of the world. We are therefore true and loyal citizens of this land ; we fear God and honor the Queen,—long may she be spared to reign over us. (Cheers.) We are united and bound together by ties of universal brotherhood and benevolence, and it is our great and lofty aim to elevate the moral character of mankind. It may not be amiss to inform you that the ceremony we are about to celebrate is one of great antiquity. We have good reasons for knowing that the corner stone of the first Jewish Temple was laid by King Solomon with peculiar ceremonies ; and also that at its dedication, ceremonies of a similar nature, and of a masonic character, were conducted. You will also remember that after that first temple had been completed, in course of time, the Jews, who had offended the Most High by their sinfulness and desertion of Him, were, as a punishment, carried into captivity. After they had been in captivity a number of years, Cyrus rose, and under his reign they were permitted again to rebuild their temple. On the occasion of rebuilding, and after seven months of preparation, the foundation stone of that important edifice, the second temple, was laid with public ceremonies of the most imposing kind. So far back can we distinctly trace the practice of the ceremony we are called together to-day to perform, and ancient history teems with instances of foundation stones which have been laid with these solemnities. In numberless instances of these the institution to which we have the honor to belong has been called upon to enact the most important part,

according to their ancient rites and established usages. And not only in the laying of corner stones, but in the buildings themselves, did masonry perform the most important part. The grand old edifices of ancient days, the ruins of which call forth such wonder and admiration from us now, were all constructed and designed by members of our order. But, coming down to later years, we find that the greater number of the aged and magnificent buildings which grace Europe at the present day, were constructed by masons. We know that the remarkable Cathedral of St. Paul's was designed by Sir Christopher Wren, then a member of the order, and master of a masonic lodge, and that the plans were all carried out under his direction. But I must not detain you with further remarks on these points in connection with our past history, as enough has been said to convince you that there is that in the ceremony we are now conducting which justifies us in claiming great antiquity for it, and for our order; though there is something upon which I may be permitted to say one word. Although we who have been initiated have the best of reasons for knowing our order existed in the time of King Solomon, and that he was a member of it, to some of those who have not received that privilege this point may be disputed. It may suffice therefore to state that independent of the evidences we are in possession of, and which are hidden from the rest of the world, that there are authentic records in the archives of England that the first charter was issued in that country as early as the fourth century. When I say this, I think it is sufficient evidence of our right to lay claim that ours is the most ancient and also the most honorable order which characterizes the age in which we live. Our institution is one which has particular claim upon the human race. We have teachings peculiar to ourselves which serve to make us loyal citizens of our Queen, and useful members of society; and not only useful to each other, but also to those round about us. But ours is not only a benevolent order. We are guided by certain other cardinal points. Although it must be understood Freemasonry does not claim to be a religion, she has fitly been called the handmaid of religion. (Cheers.) We do not profess to take the place of religion, but we do profess to be able to join with it on the broad principles of "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth," and guided by these to have an opportunity of improving our fellow men, and by our teachings fitting them for religious truths. As I said before, we have other cardinal points to guide us, and one of these we esteem most highly is that of friendship. We regard it as an inestimable pleasure to be able to extend the right hand of fellowship to our fellow man, and to be on amicable terms with those with whom we come in contact. We regard it as a duty to be tolerant in our views on all subjects. That no political, sectarian, or other violent discussions are permitted in a mason's lodge, is a mason's proudest boast. We also enjoin upon our members the practice of urbanity and truth, in all our intercourse with our fellow men, as well as with each other, in whatever positions we may be placed. It is this which enables him to find out the sick, the widow, the orphan, the aged, and the distressed, and shower down upon them such sympathy, encouragement or assistance as their several cases demand.—Long may this be the watchword of our order, because it is in this way we have the opportunity of extending relief to those who cannot otherwise be sought out, and seeking those who are not willing to let their distress to be made known. But I must not weary you with any further details. Such therefore is our institution, and such the order which you have invited to take part in the ceremonies for which we are assembled together. It is not necessary for me to say more. suffice it to mention that in all the undertakings of our order in times

past, there have been none we have accepted more cheerfully than those of laying corner stones of edifices about to be erected for the worship of the Most High, and where honor was to be paid to His name. May this edifice about to be raised here prove perfect in all its parts, and honorable to the builders; may religions truths ever be proclaimed within its walls, and here may many learn to realize the inestimable privileges the gospel brings. We have been fortunate in our choice of the day for conducting these ceremonies. Heaven itself is smiling upon our undertaking, as well as upon the birthday of our most honored sovereign. Let us therefore take this opportunity of commencing our proceedings in the manner in which they are sometimes ended, and let us together shout right loyally three hearty cheers for her most gracious Majesty, our Queen.

Prayer was then offered up by Bro., the Rev. C. W. Paterson, of Port Hope, Acting Grand Chaplain, after which R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves, Acting Grand Secretary, read the following scroll:

In the name and by the favor of the
 GLORIOUS ARCHITECT OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.
 on this 24th day of May, A. D. 1876, and of the
 era of Freemasonry, Anno Lucius 5876. and in the Thirty-
 ninth year of the reign of
 OUR GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN, VICTORIA,
 Queen of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Dependencies in Europe,
 Asia, Africa, the Dominion of Canada, Australia,
 Empress of India, &c., &c., &c. The
 Right Honorable Sir Frederick
 Temple.

EARL OF DUFFERIN, K. P., K. C. B., &c., &c.,

Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada. The Hon. Donald A. Macdonald, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario; the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Minister of Public Works and Premier of the Dominion; the Hon. Edward Blake, Minister of Justice and Attorney-General; this Corner Stone of St. Paul's Church, Bethany, was laid by M. W. Brother James K. Kerr, Esq., Q. C., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada, assisted by R. W. Bro. J. Wright, acting D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Dr. Kincaid, G. S. W.; W. Bro. R. J. Winch, G. J. W.; Rev. Bro. C. W. Paterson, G. Chap.; R. W. Bro. E. Peplow, jr., D. D. G. M. Ontario District; R. W. Bro. J. B. Bickell, G. Reg.; R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves, G. S.; W. Bro. Dr. Turner, G. S. D.; W. Bro. C. Doebler, G. J. D.; V. W. Bro. Dr. Might, G. D. of C.; W. Bro. McNaughton, G. Sword Bearer; R. W. Bro. J. B. Hall, and W. Bros. Melville, Milne, Lockhart, and Begg, Grand Stewards; Bro. Geo. Reading, Grand Tyler; and a large concourse of brethren of Ontario District, in accordance with the ceremonies and usages of the Order, which may the G. A. O. T. U. ever protect and prosper. Rev. Henry Francis Burgess, Incumbent; George Reynolds, and Charles Henry Brereton, M. D., Church Wardens; Rev. H. F. Burgess, George Reynolds, George Sisson, Geoffrey Graham, Ahaziah Morris, Building Committee;

Messrs, Fowler & Mohur, Architects ; Robert Touchburne, Esq., Reeve : and Josiah Wilson, George Shaw, J. Barnicott, and John Magill, jr., Councillors of Manvers.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Rev. Mr. Burgess, incumbent of St. Paul's Church, then stepped forward and presented the Grand Master with a magnificent silver trowel, and read the following address :—

To the Most Worshipful J. K. Kerr, G. M. of A. F. & A. M. of Canada :

It affords me great pleasure, in the name of the Building Committee of St. Paul's Church, Bethany, to present to you this trowel on the occasion of laying the corner stone of this Church, as a slight memento of this your first official visit amongst us. I hope that the feeling of brotherly love and unity here to-day exemplified, may be cemented ever firmer and firmer as time wears on, and that we may all learn to realize "Behold how good a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

H. F. BURGESS.

MAY 24th, 1876.

To which the Grand Master replied as follows :—

Mr. Burgess, and Gentlemen of the Building Committee :

I confess I cannot find words adequately to express to you my gratification and pleasure on being presented with such a magnificent trowel as this is. I assure you I shall always preserve and treasure it as a pleasing memento of one of the most interesting occasions in which it was my good fortune ever to take part.

The trowel was a very beautiful one, and appropriately inscribed as follows :—

Presented To
J. K. KERR, Esq.,
Grand Master,
of
A. F. and A. M. of Canada,
on the occasion of laying
THE FOUNDATION STONE
of
St. Paul's Church, Bethany,
24th of May, 1876.

The stone was then lowered into its place with the usual ceremonies.

The plans and specifications were inspected, when the

Grand Master, addressing the Rev. Mr. Burgess and Building Committee, said :—

Rev. Sir, and Gentlemen of the Building Committee.

“ We have completed our labors, and have great pleasure in handing these plans over to you, with a hope that this edifice may be completed in perfection. that no harm may befall the workmen engaged in its erection, and that you may be spared to see all the expectations now entertained of it realized. May we all look back with feelings of pleasure and gratification to the part we have taken in the proceedings to-day.”

After the completion of the ceremony of laying the corner stone, short and appropriate addresses, suitable to the occasion, were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Allen, of Millbrook, Rev. Bro. Harris, of Omemee, and Rev. Mr. Burgess, of Bethany, as also by R. W. Bro. Dr. Kincaid, of Peterboro.

The procession then reformed and returned to the room from whence they started, where a dinner was awaiting them, of which they partook heartily, the march which they had had giving zest to their appetites.

The business of Grand Lodge being ended it was closed in Ample Form.

ATTEST.



J. J. Watson

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the City of Kingston, on Wednesday, the 24th day of May, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro. Samuel Woods, Acting Grand Master.

“ “ James Redden, as Deputy Grand Master.

“ “ C. H. Corbett, “ Grand Senior Warden.

“ “ Thomas Gordon, “ “ Junior “

“ “ Rev. J. G. Smith, “ “ Chaplain.

“ “ E. J. Barker, “ “ Treasurer.

“ “ F. Rowland, “ “ Registrar.

“ “ James Kearns, “ “ Secretary.

“ “ E. J. B. Pense, “ “ Senior Deacon.

“ “ W. A. Gunn, “ “ Junior “

“ “ A. Strachan, “ “ Sup't of Works.

“ “ George Creegan, “ “ Director of Cer.

“ “ Thomas Seale, “ “ Organist.

“ “ W. Baillie, “ Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer.

“ “ J. Clarke, “ Grand Sword Bearer.

V. “ “ S. H. Blondheim, “ “ Pursuivant.

“ “ E. Ball, “ “ Tyler.

Bros. E. S. Boyden, W. H. Godwin, G. W. Gaden, G. S. Lee, A. B. Shaw, G. Carruthers, J. B. Walkem, and J. Smith, as Grand Stewards.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in Form, R. W. Bro. Samuel Woods stated that he had been empowered by the M. W. the Grand Master, to perform the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Minden Lodge Hall, about to be erected in Kingston.

A procession was formed in accordance with the regulation as laid down in the Book of Constitution, and headed by the Band of A Battery, proceeded to the site of the Hall, when the Acting Grand Master delivered the following address to the large assemblage of persons who were present to witness the ceremony :

"Men, women and children assembled here to-day to witness this ceremony, be it known to you all that we are lawful Masons, true to our country, and to its laws, and established of old in peace and harmony among all nations to do good to our brethren and to build noble structures to the honor and glory of the Most High. We have among us secrets which may not be revealed to the general public, yet these secrets are lawful and just, and known only to ourselves, who have the right to keep them to the end of time. Unless our craft were good, and our calling honorable, we could not have preserved our principles for so many generations, nor should we have so many of the best and greatest of men enrolled among our brethren.

It may not be out of place for me to draw your attention at this time to some of the cardinal principles which distinguish our noble Order. First, then, we meet upon a common ground of liberty and equality. We do not claim to be a religious society, and yet we base our principles upon the Bible, the law of God to the Jew as well as the Christian. We quarrel with no man's religious belief, we do not set up our noble craft in opposition to any distinctive religious principle, but we claim for ourselves the noble calling of bettering our fellow men by aiding them to a knowledge of the true and living God.

Second, we are strictly non-political. In this land where the bitterest animosities are sometimes foolishly engendered, this is no vaunting boast. Although outside the portals of our Lodge we may honestly differ in regard to matters of public utility, inside that abode, no word of politics has ever been heard, nor have men of the keenest political sympathies ever found any trouble to meet each other in brotherly harmony in the place dedicated to unity and love, and while we thus boast of this freedom from political bias, there is no need denying the fact that in other countries less favored than our own, secret societies have been formed aping the name of Freemasonry, but not possessed of its spirit, and thus our noble order has incurred obloquy and disgrace. The true system, however, still lives, and from the stately minarets of Turkish palaces to the ice-tipped homes of the frozen north, men are found who raise the banner of our order, and illustrate its principles by the blameless purity of their life and conduct. Concerned with no treasons, busy with no sinister aims of selfish aggrandizement, and influenced only by a spirit of loyalty to any government established in honesty and equity, our order,

the symbol of upright dealing, concerns itself only about its own noble aims, and leaves cabals and disloyal actions to those who own some other authority than its beneficent sway.

Thirdly, we are a moral institution. It has often been objected that Masonry enrolls under its banners men who are adherents of no church, and who are said to find the gospel in the tenets of Masonry. It may be we have such men, though their number must be small. But to those non-Masons who are listening to me I would suggest this enquiry: You pride yourself on the purity of your church principles, go over your church membership and marking such as are Masons consider whether these are not those who are active beyond others, in promoting every good work tending to the good of their fellow man. Masonry will never take a man to heaven, but it will pave the way for him and bring him nearer to the great I AM.

Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase.)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace.
And saw, within the moonlight in his room,
Making it rich, and like a lily bloom,
An angel writing with a pen of gold:
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold.
And to the presence in the room he said,
"What writest thou?"—The vision raised its head,
And with a look, made of all sweet accord,
Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."
"And is mine one?" said Abou. "Nay, not so,"
Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low
But cheerily still; and said, "I pray thee, then,
Write me as one who LOVES his fellow men."
The angel wrote and vanished. The next night
It came again with a great wakening light,
And showed the names whom love God had blessed.
And lo! BEN ADHEM'S NAME LED ALL THE REST.

I might go on, but I fear I am detaining you, too long. I shall therefore conclude by congratulating you all on the auspicious occasion on which we are assembled. It is the natal day of our noble Queen, the thrice noble patron of our craft, and we all, I am sure, entertain but one opinion about her, however else we may differ. Let us then, each and all maintaining the principles we honor, be loyal, true and happy that our lot is cast amid so many temporal benefits, that our minds may naturally ascend to him whose "blessings maketh rich and add no sorrow." May our present prosperity and good fortune ever continue."

Bro. the Rev. J. G. Smith, Acting Grand Chaplain, then offered up a prayer, after which, the Acting Grand Secretary read the following scroll :

In the
Name and by the favor of the
Glorious Architect of Heaven and of Earth,
On the 24th day of May, A. D., 1876,
And in the thirty-ninth year of the reign of

Our Most Sovereign Lady,

VICTORIA,

By the Grace of God, Queen of Great Britain and
Ireland, and Empress of India, Defender
of the Faith ;

The Right Honorable Sir Frederick Temple,
Earl of Dufferin, K. P., K. C. B., K. M. G.,
Governor-General of the Dominion ;

The

Honorable Donald A. Macdonald,
Being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province
of Ontario ;

The Hon. Alexander Mackenzie
Being Minister of Public Works and Premier
of the Dominion ;

Byron Moffatt Britton, Esq., Q. C., being
Mayor of the City of Kingston ;

J. Power & Son, Architects ; J. Mitchell,
Builder.

This corner stone of the Minden Lodge Hall, erected in the city of Kingston, Province of Ontario and Dominion of Canada, was laid by R. W. Bro. Woods, M. A. ; D. D. G. M., St. Lawrence District of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, acting Grand Master, assisted by W. Bro. James Redden, W. M. Minden No. 253 as D. G. M. ; W. Bro. H. Corbett, W. M. Ancient St. John's No. 3 as G. S. W. ; W. Bro. Thos. Gordon, P. M., Cataraqui, No. 92, as G. J. W., and a large concourse of the brethren, in accordance with the ancient ceremonies and uses of the Order, which may the G. A. O. T. U., ever protect and prosper.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Which, with copies of the local and other papers and the current coin of the Dominion, and other matters enclosed in a box, were deposited in the cavity of the stone.

W. Bro. Redden then presented to the Acting Grand Master a handsome silver trowel, with which he spread the cement, and the stone was lowered to its place with the usual ceremonies.

The procession then re-formed, and returned to the

Masonic Hall, when Grand Lodge was closed in Form with prayer.

ATTEST.



J. J. Maron

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Village of Frankford, on Thursday, the 22d day of June, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro. Donald Ross,	D. D. G. M.,	as Grand Master.
" " E. B. Fraleck,		as Deputy Grand Master.
" " George W. Potter,		" Grand Senior Warden.
" " A. Rockwell,	" "	Junior "
" " W. L. Hamilton,	" "	Secretary.
" " A. Chard,	" "	Registrar.
" " Warren Scott,	" "	Treasurer.
" " Rev. J. Halliwell,	" "	Chaplain.
" " John Chapman,	" "	Senior Deacon.
" " George E. Wilson,	" "	Junior "
" " W. J. Barker,	" "	Director of Cer.
" " A. Williams,	" "	Sup't of Works.
" " William Sutherland,	" "	Pursuivant.
" " G. H. Miller,	" "	Tyler.
" " D. McColl, as	}	- - Grand Stewards.
" " John Henderson, as		
" " Thomas Crowe, as		
" " George Crowe, as		

With a large number of the Brethren from the following Lodges : Moira No. 11, Prince Edward No. 18, Trent No. 38,

Stirling No. 69, Belleville No. 123, Franck, No. 127, Marmora No. 222, Mount Sinai No. 280, Eureka, No. 283.

The Grand Lodge was opened in *fform* at 12.30 P. M.

The Acting Grand Master then announced the object of convening this Grand Lodge, which was for the purpose of laying with Masonic ceremonies, the corner stone of Trinity Church about to be erected in the Village.

The Brethren were then formed in procession by the Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies and marched to the site of the Church, when the procession halted, and opened out, facing inwards, when the Acting Grand Officers passed through to the northeast corner of the intended structure, where a spacious platform had been erected for their convenience.

After the Acting Grand Officers had ascended the platform the Acting Grand Master delivered the following

ADDRESS :

Men, women, and children, here assembled to-day to behold this ceremony, know all of you that we are lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and professing to fear God, who is the Great Architect of all things, to honor the Queen, confer benefits on our brethren, and to practice universal benevolence to all mankind. We have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered; but these secrets are lawful and honorable, and are placed in the custody of Masons who alone have the keeping of them to the end of time.

Unless our Craft were good, and our calling honorable, we should not have existed for so many centuries, nor should we have so many illustrious brothers in our Order, ever ready to sanction our proceedings and contribute to our prosperity.

From time immemorial it has been customary wherever Masons have been held in good repute to seek their assistance at the erection of buildings of a public character, and on no occasion have Masons more cheerfully rendered that assistance than at the erection of an edifice to be devoted to the worship of the Most High.

We have assembled here at your request to lay the foundation stone of this church in accordance with the rites of our order, we pray God to prosper this undertaking, and to enable those who have commenced the work to carry it on to completion. May the Great Architect of the Universe direct all who are connected with the erection of this building.

May it prove a blessing to this community, and may many of those who may hereafter assemble within its walls be brought from darkness into light, and made meet for that spiritual building, "that house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

Bro. the Rev. John Haliwell, Acting Grand Chaplain, then offered up the following prayer :

Great Architect of the Universe ; Maker and Ruler of all worlds ; deign from thy Celestial Temple, from realms of light and glory, to help us in all the purposes of our present assembly. We humbly invoke Thee to give us at this and at all times wisdom in all our doings ; strength of mind in all our difficulties and the beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, O thou Author of life and light, great source of love and happiness to erect this building so that hereafter it may serve as a temple wherein to worship Thee in the beauty of holiness.

W. Bro. W. L. Hamilton, Acting Grand Secretary, then read the following scroll :

By the favor of the Almighty God,
On the 22nd day of June, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.
and in the 40th year of the reign of our
beloved Sovereign
QUEEN VICTORIA ;
The Right Honorable Sir Frederick Temple,
Earl of Dufferin, K. P., K. C. B., &c., &c.,
Governor-General of the Dominion ;
The Honorable Donald Alexander Macdonald,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province
of Ontario,
James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Esq., M. W. Grand
Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free
and Accepted Masons of
Canada.

Rev. John Haliwell, Clerk, Rector ; R. C. H. Cotter, and Thomas Crowe, Church Wardens ; Thomas and George Crowe, Contractors.

The Corner Stone of this "Trinity Church"
was laid by
R. W. Bro. Donald Ross, D. D. G. M., of Prince
Edward District,

Attended and assisted by an Especial Grand Lodge of Free Masons of Canada and various Lodges and Brethren.

WHOM MAY GOD PROSPER.

The scroll, with *Weekly Intelligencer*, *Ontario Mail*, *Globe*, and *Leader*, and current silver and copper coins of Canada were then deposited in the cavity of the stone.

Bro. the Rev. J. Haliwell, rector, on behalf of the Ladies of

the Congregation, in a few appropriate remarks, presented the Acting Grand Master with a solid silver trowel, of full size and exquisite workmanship, which bore the following inscription :

Presented to

R. W. Bro. DONALD ROSS, D. D. G. M.

of Prince Edward District,

by the Ladies of Frankford,

on the occasion of laying the Corner Stone of

Trinity Church,

Frankford, June 22nd, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

The Acting Grand Master, in acknowledging the gift expressed his gratification at receiving so handsome an implement, one that he would feel pride in handing down to his children's children, as a memento of this day.

The cement having been spread the stone was lowered with the usual ceremonies.

The procession then re-formed and returned to the Lodge Room.

The business of the Especial Communication being finished, the Grand Lodge was closed in *fform* with solemn prayer.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Town of Guelph, on Saturday, the 1st day of July, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. James K. Kerr, Q. C., Grand Master,

On the Throne.

R. W. Bro.	John McLaren,	as Deputy Grand Master.
" "	W. S. Burnett,	" Grand Senior Warden.
V. "	J. S. Scarff,	" " Junior "
" "	S. S. Walsh,	" " Chaplain.
" "	Joseph Figg,	" " Treasurer.
" "	John Creasor,	" " Registrar.
R. "	J. J. Mason,	" Secretary.
V. "	W. D. Hepburn,	" " Senior Deacon.
" "	S. R. Moffat,	" " Junior "
" "	W. L. P. Eager,	" " Sup't of Works.
" "	Charles Sharpe,	" " Director of Cer.
" "	Hugh Walker,	" Asst. Grand Secretary.
" "	C. Pettiford,	" " " Dir. of Cer.
" "	W. J. Paterson,	" Grand Sword Bearer.
" "	W. Tytler,	" " Organist.
" "	G. J. Waugh,	" " Pursuivant.
" "	John Dixon,	" " Tyler.

W. Bros. K. M. Walton, John Barbour, W. Mulloy, P. Erbach, John MacDonald, Hugh Hyndman, C. O. Sizer, C. Chase, A. C. Chadwick, P. Bish, Adam Murray, and W. H. Starr, as Grand Stewards.

And about 500 Brethren, hailing from Ionic Lodge 25, Toronto; Lodge of Strict Observance 27, Hamilton; King Solomon's Lodge 43, Woodstock; Corinthian Lodge 51, Grahamville; Alma Lodge 72, Galt; St James Lodge 73, St. Marys; St. John's Lodge 75, Toronto; St. Clair Lodge 135, Milton; Tecumseh Lodge 144, Stratford; Grand River Lodge 151, Berlin; Speed Lodge 180, Guelph; St. Albans Lodge 200, Mt. Forest; Irvine Lodge 203, Elora; Credit Lodge 219, Georgetown; Ionic Lodge 229, Brampton; Galt Lodge 257, Galt; Guelph Lodge 258, Guelph; New Hope Lodge 297, Hespeler; Blair Lodge 314, Palmerston; Clifford Lodge 315, Clifford; Wilmot Lodge 318, Baden; Walker Lodge 321, Acton, and others.

The Grand Lodge was opened in *Ample Form* at high twelve, in the Lodge room of Speed Lodge 180, and from thence the Brethren marched in procession to the site of the new building.

The front of the procession having reached the site, a halt was made, and the ranks opened out and faced inwards, when the Grand Master, supported by the Grand Officers, passed through to the northeast corner, where a platform had been erected for their convenience.

A prayer having been offered by the Acting Grand Chaplain, the Grand Master said at the request of the Committee of the Masonic Hall Company, he had convened the Grand Lodge for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a building designed for future occupancy by the Masonic Lodges of Guelph. As the elements were not propitious he considered it advisable to curtail the proceedings, and what remarks he would have liked to make, he would leave until later in the day.

The following hymn was then sung, Bro. H. K. Maitland leading in the familiar tune, "Old Hundred."

Accept Great Builder of the skies,
Our heart-felt acts of sacrifice !
Each brother found a living stone
While bending low before Thy throne.

While Craftsmen true their work prepare,
With thoughts unstained, and holy care,
May each be fitly formed, and placed
Where LOVE DIVINE his hopes had traced.

With all my powers of heart and tongue
I'll praise my Maker in my song ;
Angels shall hear the notes I raise,
Approve the song and join the praise.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye, heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, then read the following scroll, as also a list of the various newspapers, coins, etc., which were deposited in the cavity of the stone.

In the name and by the favor of the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth. On this first day of July, A. D., MDCCCLXXVI, and of the Era of Freemasonry, *Anno Lucius* 5876, and in the fortieth year of the reign of our Gracious Sovereign VICTORIA, Queen of Great Britain, Ireland, and the dependencies in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Dominion of Canada, Australia, &c., Empress of India, &c.; the Right Honorable Sir Frederick Temple, Earl of Dufferin, K. B., K. C. B., &c., being Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada; the Honorable D. A. Macdonald, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario; the Honorable Alexander Mackenzie, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada; the Honorable Oliver Mowat, being Attorney-General of Ontario; Robert Melvin, Esq., Mayor of the Town of Guelph; Alexander Bain Petrie, Esq., President; John Inglis, Esq., Hugh Walker, Esq., David Kennedy, Esq., Thomas Young Greet, Esq., Samuel R. Moffatt, Esq., Charles Pettiford, Esq., being Directors; William H. Jacomb, Esq., Treasurer; J. Mimmack, Esq., Secretary; and H. W. Peterson, Esq., Solicitor of the Guelph Masonic Hall Company.

This Corner Stone of the Masonic Hall, erected by the Masonic Fraternity of Guelph, was laid by James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Esq., Q. C., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. Masons of Canada, assisted by the Grand officers, and by a large concourse of brethren, in accordance with the ceremonies and usages of the Order, which may the G. A. O. T. U. ever protect and prosper.

MASONIC BODIES IN THE TOWN.—Speed Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 180, S. R. Moffat, Esq., W. M.; Guelph Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 258, John H.

Moore, Esq., W. M.; Guelph Royal Arch Chapter, No. 40, G. R. C., H. K. Maitland, Esq., 1st Principal Z.

CONTRACTORS.—Masonry, Taylor & Emslie; Carpenters, Geo. Stevens & Son.; Plastering, William Day; Smith and Foundry, Inglis & Hunter; Tinsmithing, George Howard; Architect, Victor Stewart, Esq.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

W. Bro. S. R. Moffat then stepped forward and in a few well chosen words presented the Grand Master with the silver trowel to be used on the occasion, remarking that it was the first corner stone laid by the Masonic body in Guelph.

The Grand Master replied, stating that he would retain the implement as one of the most pleasant mementos in his life, and that although he had been the recipient of many trowels on similar occasions, he had never before received one more beautiful. He then spread the cement, and the stone was lowered to its place with the usual ceremonies. The procession was then reformed and returned to the Masonic Hall, when Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form.

Subsequently the members of Grand Lodge and visiting Brethren were entertained at a magnificent banquet in the Town Hall.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Village of Ridgetown, on Saturday, the 1st day of July, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

R. W. Bro. Thomas C. Macnabb, Acting Grand Master.

"	"	J. P. Rutherford,	as Deputy Grand Master.
"	"	Dr. Ruthven,	" Grand Senior Warden.
"	"	A. E. S. R. Barclay,	" " Junior "
"	"	Rev. E. R. Pelly,	" " Chaplain.
"	"	John Risdon,	" " Treasurer.
"	"	George Duncan,	" " Registrar.
"	"	Luther Carpenter,	" " Secretary.
"	"	Robert Jordan,	" " Senior Deacon.
"	"	Robert Porterfield,	" " Junior "
"	"	Neil McLean,	" " Sup't of Works.
"	"	H. J. Ebberts,	" " Director of Cer.
"	"	Dwight Meikle,	" " Sword Bearer.
"	"	Philip Ridley,	" " Organist.
"	"	John Brown,	" " Pursuivant.
"	"	Hector McPherson,	" " Tyler.

"	"	John Lee, as	} Grand Stewards.
"	"	James Rushton, as	
V. "	"	George Mansfield,	

And about fifty brethren hailing from various Lodges.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in *form* at 2.30 p. m., R. W. Bro. Macnabb stated that he had been empowered by the M. W. the Grand Master to perform the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Mount Zion Methodist Episcopal Church about to be erected in the Village of Ridgetown.

A procession was formed under the guidance of the Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, in the order as laid down in the Book of Constitution, headed by a brass band, and proceeded to the site of the building, where a large concourse of people had assembled to witness the ceremonies. The procession halted and faced inwards, when the Acting Grand Master followed by the Acting Grand Officers passed through the procession, and having taken their proper position round the foundation stone, the Brethren formed round them.

After the Acting G. M., R. W. Bro. T. C. Macnabb, had addressed the assemblage, and the Acting Grand Chaplain had implored a blessing from Heaven on the undertaking, the Acting Grand Secretary read the following scroll :

In the name and by the favor of the
Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth,
On the 1st day of July, A. D. 1876,
Dominion Day,
and in the fortieth year of the reign of our Gracious
SOVEREIGN VICTORIA,
Queen of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Colonies ;
The Right Honorable Sir Frederick Temple,
Earl of Dufferin, K. P., K. C. B., &c., &c.,
Governor-General of the Dominion ;

the Honorable Donald A. Macdonald, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario ; the Honorable Alexander Mackenzie, being Minister of Public Works, and Premier of the Dominion ; the Rev. C. Burdett, and Rev. E. G. Pilly, Pastors, this corner stone of the Mount Zion Methodist E. Church, erected in the Village of Ridgetown, was laid by R. W. Bro. Thomas Creighton Macnabb, District Deputy Grand Master, St. Clair District, acting for the M. W., the Grand Master, James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, assisted by a large concourse of the Brethren, in accordance with the ceremonies and usages of the Order, which may the T. G. A. O. T. U. ever protect and prosper.

Masonic Lodge in Ridgetown—Morpeth Lodge, No. 111, G. R. C., W.
Bro. James P. Rutherford, W. M.

The stone was then laid with the usual ceremonies.

The procession was again formed and returned to Morpeth
Lodge Room.

The Grand Lodge was closed in *form* with solemn prayer
at 3.45 P. M.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Village of Onondaga, County of Brant, on Saturday, the 1st day of July, A. L. 5876, A. D. 1876.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro.	Chauncey Bennett,	D.D.G.M.	as Grand Master.
" "	"	D. E. Broderick,	D.D.G.M. as Deputy Gr. Master.
" "	John Bishop,		as Grand Senior Warden.
" "	Thomas Rawlings,	" "	Junior "
V. "	Rev. John King,	" "	Chaplain.
" "	H. F. Teeter,	" "	Treasurer.
" "	George Lindley,	" "	Secretary.
" "	Wm. McCargow,	" "	Senior Deacon.
" "	J. C. Titchworth,	" "	Junior "
" "	W. H. Nelles,	" "	Sup't of Works.
" "	G. M. Johnson	" "	Dir. of Cer.
" "	John Leask,	" "	Pursuivant.
" "	H. Gardner and J. Mills,	" "	Stewards.
" "	John H. Tooke,	" "	Tyler.

Together with a number of brethren from Caledonia, Brantford, Waterford, Cayuga, Scotland, and other places.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in ~~form~~ at 1 o'clock P. M., R. W. Bro. Bennett stated that he had been empowered by the M. W. Grand Master to perform the ceremony of lay-

ing the corner stone of Holy Trinity Church about to be erected in Onondaga.'

A procession was formed in accordance with the regulation as laid down in the book of Constitution, and proceeded to the site of the Church, when the Acting Grand Master delivered an address to the assemblage of persons who were present to witness the ceremony.

The stone having been laid with the usual ceremonies, the procession was reformed and returned to the Town Hall.

The Business of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed in Form.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Village of Foxboro', on Tuesday the 6th July, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro. Donald Ross, D. D. G. M. as Grand Master.		
" "	John McKeon,	as Deputy Grand Master.
" "	David Price,	" Grand Senior Warden.
" "	Donald McLean,	" " Junior "
" "	Rev. Sheldon Young,	" " Chaplain.
" "	Robert Dick,	" " Treasurer.
" "	Albert Chard,	" " Registrar.
" "	John J. Farly,	" " Secretary.
" "	Willet C. Farly,	" " Senior Deacon.
" "	L. Roenigk,	" " Junior "
" "	Mordan Bird,	" " Sup't of Works.
" "	James McCoun,	" " Dir. of Cer.
" "	William Davis,	" " Pursuivant.
" "	Donald Urquhart,	" " Tyler.
" "	John Henderson, as	Grand Stewards
" "	John Mottashed, as	
" "	J. L. Walters, as	
" "	J. C. Tillinghast, as	

With a large number of brethren from the following Lodges :

Moira No. 11 ; Prince Edward No. 18 ; Madoc No. 48 ; Stirling No. 69 ; The Belleville No. 123 ; Franck No. 127 ; Marmora No. 222 ; Mystic No. 278.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ~~form~~ at 11 A. M.

The Acting Grand Master then announced the object of convening this Grand Lodge which was for the purpose of laying, with Masonic ceremonies, the Corner Stone of Canada Methodist Church, about to be erected in Foxboro'.

A procession was formed in the usual order, under the direction of the Acting Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site of the intended edifice.

The Acting Grand Master addressed the brethren and people assembled as follows :

Men, women and children, here assembled to-day to behold this ceremony, know all of you that we are lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country and established of old with peace and honor in most countries, to do good to our brethren, and to fear God, who is the Great Architect of all things.

We have among us concealed from the eyes of all men secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered, but these secrets are lawful and honorable, and are highly prized by Masons who only have the keeping of them to the end of time.

Unless our craft were good and our calling honorable we should not have lasted so many centuries, nor should we have had so many illustrious brothers in our Order ready to promote our laws and further our interests. To-day we are here assembled in the presence of you all to lay the foundation stone of a church for the public use of this Village, which we pray God may prosper, if it seem good to Him, that it may become a building for good men and good deeds, and promote religious harmony and brotherly love till the world itself shall end.

The Acting Grand Chaplain then offered up the following prayer :

Great Architect of the Universe ; Maker and Ruler of all the world ; deign from Thy Celestial Temple, from realms of light and glory, to help us in all the purposes of our present assembly ; we humbly invite Thee to give us at this, and all other times, wisdom in all our doings, strength of mind in all our difficulties, and the beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, Thou author of light and life, great source of love and happiness to erect this Temple, so that hereafter it may be solemnly consecrated to the honor of Thy glory.

The Acting Grand Secretary then read the following scroll :

By the favor of Almighty God, on the
6th day of July, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876,
and in the 40th year of the reign of
our beloved Sovereign,
QUEEN VICTORIA ;

The Right Honorable Sir Frederick Temple.
Earl of Dufferin, K. P., K. C. B., &c., &c.,
Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada ;
The Honorable Donald Alexander McDonald,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province
of Ontario ;
James Kirpatrick Kerr, Esq., M. W. Grand
Master of the Grand Lodge of Free
and Accepted Masons
of Canada ;

The Corner Stone of this Canada Methodist Church
was laid by

R. W. Bro. Donald Ross, D. D. G. M., of Prince
Edward District,

Attended and assisted by an Especial Grand Lodge of Free Masons of
Canada and various Lodges and Brethren.

WHOM MAY GOD PROSPER.

The scroll with *Weekly Intelligencer*, *Ontario*, *Mail* and
Globe, and current silver and copper coins of Canada were
then deposited in the cavity of the stone.

W. Bro. Robert Dick, on behalf of the ladies of the con-
gregation, in a few appropriate remarks, presented the Acting
Grand Master with a solid silver trowel, which bore the follow-
ing inscription:

Presented to
DONALD ROSS, D. D. G. M. of
Prince Edward District,
by the Ladies of Foxboro,
on the occasion of his laying the Corner Stone of
Canada Methodist Church.
Foxboro, July 6th, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

The Acting Grand Master said he received the trowel with
thanks and would ever retain it as an interesting memento of
the occasion which had brought them together.

The cement having been spread, the stone was lowered
with the usual ceremonies.

The procession then reformed and returned to the Hall.

The business of the Especial Communication being finished the Grand Lodge was closed in ~~form~~ with solemn prayer.

ATTEST.



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

At the Twenty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held in the By-Ward Market Hall, in the City of Ottawa, commencing on Wednesday, the 12th day of July, A. D. 1876, A. L. 5876.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. James K. Kerr, Q. C., Grand Master

On the Throne.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, Deputy Grand Master.

" "	" George S. Birrell,	Grand Senior Warden
" "	" A. J. Cambie,	" Junior "
" "	" Rev. V. Clementi,	as " Chaplain.
" "	" Otto Klotz,	as " Treasurer.
" "	" J. G. Burns,	" Registrar.
" "	" J. J. Mason,	" Secretary.
V. "	" G. H. Dartnell,	" Senior Deacon.
" "	" R. J. Hovenden,	as " Junior "
" "	" H. L. Vercoe,	" Director of Cer.
" "	" J. M. Gibson,	as Ass't Grand Secretary.
" "	" C. H. Slawson.	" " Dir. of Cer.
" "	" G. R. Vanzant,	Grand Pursuivant.
" "	" John Sweetman.	" Tyler.

V. W. Bro. J. Ormiston,	}	Grand Stewards.
" " " G. L. Orme,		
" " " Samuel Rogers,		
" " " R. King,		
" " " A. P. Booth,		
" " " Isaac Waterman, as		
" " " E. B. Butterworth, as	}	
" " " Robert Newbery, as		

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. Thomas C. Macnabb,	St. Clair District.
" " " James Sutton,	London "
" " " Chauncey Bennett,	Wilson "
" " " J. H. Benson,	Huron "
" " " John McLaren,	Wellington "
" " " Richard Brierley,	Hamilton "
" " " D. E. Broderick,	Niagara "
" " " Daniel Spry,	Toronto "
" " " E. Peplow, Jr.,	Ontario "
" " " Donald Ross,	P. Edward "
" " " W. R. White,	Ottawa "

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

- M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Representative of the Grand Lodges of Missouri, Texas and Utah.
- M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, Representative of the Grand Lodges of Quebec, Nova Scotia, Vermont and Pennsylvania.
- M. W. Bro. James Seymour, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.
- M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, Representative of the Grand Orient of Italy.
- R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island.
- R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, Representative of the Grand Orient of Uruguay.

- R. W. Bro. James A. Henderson, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.
- R. W. Bro. Rev. Vincent Clementi, Representative of the Grand Orient of Chili.
- R. W. David McLellan, Representative of the Grand Lodges of Georgia and Illinois.
- R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.
- R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Representative of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia.
- R. W. Bro. C. D. Macdonnell, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Oregon.
- R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Representative of the Grand Lodges of Kansas, Iowa and Florida.
- W. Bro. William Brydon, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington,	P. G. M.
“ “ “ W. B. Simpson,	“
“ “ “ James Seymour,	“
R. “ “ J. A. Henderson,	P. D. D. G. M.
“ “ “ C. D. Macdonnell,	“
“ “ “ L. H. Henderson,	“
“ “ “ S. B. Harman,	“
“ “ “ James Moffat,	“
“ “ “ J. B. Trayes,	“
“ “ “ D. Curtis,	“
“ “ “ J. E. Harding,	“
“ “ “ George Billington,	“
“ “ “ Henry Robertson,	“
“ “ “ James Reynolds,	“
“ “ “ W. R. White,	“
“ “ “ W. Mostyn,	“
“ “ “ J. J. Gemmill,	“

R. W. Bro.	E. C. Barber,	P. D. D. G. M.
" "	J. W. Pickup,	"
" "	Otto Klotz,	"
" "	James Bain,	P. G. S. W.
" "	Allan McLean,	"
" "	Henry Macpherson,	"
" "	F. Mudge,	P. G. J. W.
" "	Hugh Murray,	"
" "	Rev. V. Clementi,	P. G. C.
" "	David McLellan,	P. G. R.
" "	J. B. Bickell,	"
" "	John Nettleton,	"
V. "	F. J. Menet,	P. G. S. D.
" "	H. Frederick Sharp,	P. G. D. of C.
" "	Andrew Irving, Jr.,	"
" "	John Midgley,	P. Assistant G. D. of C.
" "	E. Allworth,	P. G. Steward.
" "	Isaac Waterman,	"
" "	John Boyd,	"
" "	W. D. Hepburn,	"

PAST MASTERS.

V. W. Bro.	E. Allworth.	R. W. Bro.	James Bain.
" "	A. K. Aylsworth.		
R. "	R. Brierley.	" "	J. B. Bickell.
" "	D. E. Broderick.	" "	G. Billington.
" "	G. S. Birrell.	" "	J. H. Benson.
" "	C. Bennett.	" "	E. C. Barber.
" "	J. G. Burns.	V. "	A. P. Booth.
V. "	John Boyd.	" "	John Brown, jr.
" "	Thomas Burnie.	" "	J. E. Beeton.
" "	William Brydon.	" "	William Belfour.
" "	John Bartle.	" "	D. Beatty.
" "	W. T. Brown.	" "	Benjamin Bell.
" "	E. B. Butterworth.	R. "	V. Clementi.
R. "	David Curtis.	" "	E. Chalmers.
" "	A. J. Cambie.	" "	John Cavers.

W. Bro. H. Couzens.	W. Bro. James G. Cooper.
“ “ Albert Chard.	“ “ John Cascaden.
“ “ J. C. Chamberlain.	“ “ T. J. Drake.
V. “ “ G. H. Dartnell.	“ “ R. Douglass.
“ “ Charles Esplin.	“ “ Wm. Fleming.
“ “ John Fisher.	“ “ C. F. H. Forbes.
R. “ “ J. J. Gemmill.	“ “ J. M. Gibson.
“ “ F. E. Gandrie.	“ “ J. E. Gould.
R. “ “ J. A. Henderson.	R. “ “ L. H. Henderson.
“ “ “ S. B. Harman.	“ “ “ J. E. Harding.
M. “ “ T. D. Harington.	V. “ “ W. D. Hepburn.
“ “ James Hayes.	“ “ R. J. Hovenden.
“ “ J. D. Henderson.	“ “ G. W. Holwell.
“ “ William Hill.	“ “ William Hendry.
“ “ J. A. Hoshal.	V. “ “ A. Irving, jr.
“ “ William Johnstone.	“ “ A. Jamieson.
“ “ Alfred Jones.	M. “ “ J. K. Kerr.
R. “ “ Otto Klotz.	V. “ “ Robert King.
“ “ J. F. Kennedy.	“ “ William Kerr.
“ “ G. W. Kellond.	“ “ A. H. Kay.
“ “ E. E. Kitchen.	“ “ C. Leggo.
R. “ “ C. D. Macdonnell.	R. “ “ T. C. Macnabb.
“ “ “ James Moffat.	“ “ “ J. J. Mason.
“ “ “ Fred. Mudge.	“ “ “ Hugh Murray.
“ “ “ Henry Macpherson.	“ “ “ William Mostyn.
V. “ “ John Midgley.	V. “ “ F. J. Menet.
“ “ Robert Manning.	“ “ W. J. Murray.
“ “ John Moore.	“ “ A. H. Melville.
“ “ T. B. Muir.	“ “ A. E. Mallory.
“ “ John Macdonald.	“ “ James Martin, Jr.
“ “ P. N. Mason.	R. “ “ David McLellan.
R. “ “ Allan McLean.	“ “ “ John McLaren.
“ “ David McNabb.	“ “ D. McNaughton.
“ “ Robert McIntosh.	“ “ D. McKenzie.
R. “ “ John Nettleton.	“ “ Robert Newbery.
“ “ J. Newell.	V. “ “ G. L. Orme.
“ “ J. O'Donnell.	“ “ “ John Ormiston.

	W. Bro. J. M. Platt.	R. W. Bro. J. W. Pickup.
	" " W. M. Orr.	" " " E. Peplow, Jr.
V. "	" Samuel Rogers.	" " " Donald Ross.
	" " J. J. Radford.	" " " Henry Robertson
	" " George Risk.	" " " James Reynolds.
	" " William Rea.	M. " " James Seymour.
M. "	" W. B. Simpson.	R. " " Daniel Spry.
V. "	" C. H. Slawson.	" " " James Sutton.
	" " H. Fred. Sharp.	" " " John Stanton.
	" " C. S. Scott.	" " " J. Sweetland.
	" " James Speight.	" " " James Smith.
	" " James Stephenson.	" " " Henry Smith.
	" " William Story.	" " " C. A. Summers.
	" " Joseph Smelser.	R. " " J. B. Trayes.
	" " T. H. Thornton.	" " " T. H. Tracy.
V. "	" G. R. Vanzant.	V. " " H. L. Vercoe.
R. "	" W. H. Weller.	" " " Isaac Waterman.
	" " W. R. White.	" " " G. A. Wright.
	" " William Weir.	" " " James Wilson.
	" " George J. Waugh.	" " " John Walsh.
	" " David Wilson.	" " " Hugh Walker.

A constitutional number of Lodges being represented, the Grand Chaplain implored a blessing from the G. A. O. T. U. upon all the proceedings.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was opened in *Ample Form* at 2.15 P. M.

The Board of General Purposes, as required by the Constitution, appointed R. W. Bros. C. D. Macdonnell and Richard Brierley, and W. Bro. John Walsh, a Committee on the Credentials of Representatives and Proxies from Lodges, who reported the following as being present, viz. :

No. 2. *Niagara Lodge, Niagara.*

M. W. Bro. James Seymour, Proxy.

No. 3. *The Ancient St. John's Lodge, Kingston.*

W. Bro. C. H. Corbett, W. M.; Bro. W. Massie, Jr., S. W. ;
R. W. Bros. J. A. Henderson, P. M. ; C. D. Macdonnell. P. M.

- No. 6. *Barton Lodge, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. William Gibson, W. M.; R. W. Bros. Richard Brierley, P. M.; T. C. Macnabb, P. M.
- No. 7. *Union Lodge, Grimsby.*
W. Bro. M. E. Millward, W. M.
- No. 9. *Union Lodge, Napanee.*
Bro. James A. Orr, S. W.; W. Bro. G. A. Wright, P. M.
- No. 10. *Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe.*
W. Bro. James Hayes, W. M.
- No. 11. *Moirs Lodge, Belleville.*
Bro. David Price, S. W.
- No. 14. *True Britons' Lodge, Perth.*
W. Bros. J. G. Campbell, W. M.; J. F. Kennedy, P. M.; R. Douglass, P. M.
- No. 15. *St. George's Lodge, St. Catharines.*
W. Bro. James H. Taylor, W. M.
- No. 16. *St. Andrew's Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. W. C. Wilkinson, W. M.; R. W. Bros. James Bain, P. M.; S. B. Harman, P. M.
- No. 17. *St. John's Lodge, Cobourg.*
R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, P. M.
- No. 18. *Prince Edward Lodge, Picton.*
W. Bro. John M. Platt, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Donald Ross, P. M.
- No. 20. *St. John's Lodge, London.*
W. Bro. John Wright, W. M.; R. W. Bro. James Moffat, P. M.
- No. 22. *King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. W. J. Hambly, W. M.; R. W. Bros. Daniel Spry, P. M.; David McLellan, P. M.
- No. 23. *Richmond Lodge, Richmond Hill.*
W. Bro. John Fisher, Proxy.
- No. 24. *St. Francis Lodge, Smith's Falls.*
W. Bros. Wm. Johnston, W. M.; E. Chalmers, P. M.
- No. 25. *Ionic Lodge, Toronto.*
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, P. M.
- No. 26. *Ontario Lodge, Port Hope.*
W. Bro. Charles Doebler, W. M.; R. W. Bros. E. Peplow, Jr., P. M.; J. B. Traves, P. M.
- No. 27. *Strict Observance Lodge, Hamilton.*
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. David McLellan, P. M.; W. Bro. J. M. Gibson, P. M.

- No. 30. *Composite Lodge, Whitby.*
W. Bro. John Stanton, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 31. *Jerusalem, Lodge, Bowmanville.*
W. Bro. R. S. Manning, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 32. *Amity Lodge, Dunurville.*
R. W. Bro. D. E. Broderick, Proxy.
- No. 33. *Goderich Lodge, Goderich.*
Bro. H. Bolton, S. W.
- No. 35. *St. John's Lodge, Cayuga.*
W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal, Proxy.
- No. 37. *King Hiram Lodge, Ingersoll.*
V. W. Bro. C. H. Slawson, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 38. *Trent Lodge, Trenton.*
W. Bro. R. W. Williams, W. M.
- No. 39. *Mount Zion Lodge, Brooklin.*
W. Bro. W. J. Murray, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. B. Bickell, P. M.
- No. 40. *St. John's Lodge, Hamilton.*
Bro. John Malloy, S. W.
- No. 41. *St. George's Lodge, Kingsville.*
V. W. Bro. E. Allworth, W. M.
- No. 42. *St. George's Lodge, London.*
W. Bro. William Fleming, W. M.; Bro. H. Nelles, S. W.;
V. W. Bro. Isaac Waterman, P. M.
- No. 43. *King Solomon's Lodge, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. G. C. Eden, W. M.
- No. 44. *St. Thomas Lodge, St. Thomas.*
V. W. Bro. John Midgley, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 45. *Brant Lodge, Brantford.*
R. W. Bros. David Curtis, P. M., Proxy; Frederick Mudge, P. M.
- No. 46. *Wellington Lodge, Chatham.*
W. Bro. Michael Houston, W. M.
- No. 47. *Great Western Lodge, Windsor.*
W. Bro. Thomas Burnie, P. M.
- No. 50. *Consecon Lodge, Consecon.*
W. Bro. T. H. Thornton, W. M.
- No. 52. *Dalhousie Lodge, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. C. S. Scott, W. M.; Bro. W. M. Somerville, J. W.;
W. Bro. J. J. Radford, P. M.

- No. 54. *Vaughan Lodge, Maple.*
R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, Proxy.
- No. 57. *Harmony Lodge, Binbrook.*
W. Bro. John Brown, Jr., P. M., Proxy.
- No. 58. *Doric Lodge, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. William Kerr, W. M.; Bros. J. J. Smyth, S. W.;
William Smith, J. W.; W. Bros. Charles Esplin, P. M.; John
Sweetland, P. M.
- No. 60. *Acacia Lodge, Hamilton.*
R. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 62. *St. Andrew's Lodge, Caledonia.*
W. Bro. H. Park, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. E. Broderick, P. M.
- No. 63. *St. John's Lodge, Carleton Place.*
W. Bro. William Weir, W. M.; Bro. C. G. Stackhouse, J. W.;
W. Bro. David McNab, P. M.
- No. 64. *Kilwinning Lodge, London.*
Bros. T. Brock, S. W.; R. B. Hungerford, J. W.
- No. 65. *Rehoboam Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. William Brydon, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, P. M.
- No. 66. *Durham Lodge, Newcastle.*
W. Bro. D. McNaughton, W. M.
- No. 68. *St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll.*
R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 69. *Stirling Lodge, Stirling.*
W. Bro. Albert Chard, W. M.
- No. 72. *Alma Lodge, Galt.*
Bro. J. M. Ballantyne, J. W.; W. Bro. John Cavers, P. M.
- No. 73. *St. James Lodge, St. Marys.*
W. Bro. A. Carman, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, P. M.;
V. W. Bro. H. Frederick Sharp, P. M.
- No. 74. *St. James Lodge, Maitland.*
W. Bro. John Moore, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 75. *St. John's Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. John Ritchie, W. M.; V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, P. M.;
W. Bros. James Wilson, P. M.; R. J. Hovenden, P. M.
- No. 76. *Oxford Lodge, Woodstock.*
Bro. William McKay, S. W.
- No. 77. *Faithful Brethren Lodge, Lindsay.*
R. W. Bro. E. Peplow, Jr., Proxy.

- No. 79. *Simcoe Lodge, Bradford.*
R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, Proxy.
- No. 80. *Albion Lodge, Newbury.*
R. W. Bro. G. S. Birrell, Proxy.
- No. 81. *St. John's Lodge, Mount Brydges.*
W. Bro. H. J. Lindsay, W. M.; R. W. Bro. George Billington, P. M.
- No. 82. *St. John's Lodge, Paris.*
W. Bro. A. H. Kay, Proxy.
- No. 83. *Beaver Lodge, Strathroy.*
W. Bro. A. Jamieson, W. M.
- No. 84. *Clinton Lodge, Clinton.*
V. W. Bro. H. L. Vercoe, Proxy.
- No. 86. *Wilson Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. Alexander Patterson, W. M.
- No. 87. *Markham Union Lodge, Markham.*
W. Bro. James Speight, W. M.; Bro. G. R. Vanzant, J. W.
- No. 88. *St. George's Lodge, Owen Sound.*
R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 89. *King Hiram Lodge, Lindsay.*
W. Bro. A. H. Melville, W. M.
- No. 90. *Manito Lodge, Collingwood.*
R. W. Bros. John Nettleton, P. M., Proxy; Henry Robertson, P. M.
- No. 91. *Colborne Lodge, Colborne.*
W. Bro. J. D. Henderson, W. M.; Bros. F. R. Schon, S. W.; W. L. Payne, J. W.
- No. 94. *St. Mark's Lodge, Port Stanley.*
R. W. Bro. James Moffat, Proxy.
- No. 96. *Corinthian Lodge, Barrie.*
V. W. Bro. Robert King, P. M. Proxy.
- No. 97. *Sharon Lodge, Sharon.*
Bro. John C. McCarty, S. W.
- No. 98. *True Blue Lodge, Albion.*
W. Bro. William Brydon, Proxy.
- No. 99. *Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket.*
W. Bro. J. H. Widdifield, W. M.

- No. 101. *Corinthian Lodge, Peterboro'.*
W. Bro. H. C. Rogers, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Rev. Vincent Clementi, P. M.; W. Bro. J. O'Donnell, P. M.
- No. 103. *Maple Leaf Lodge, St. Catharines.*
W. Bro. J. E. Beeton, W. M.; M. W. Bro. James Seymour P. M.
- No. 104. *St. John's Lodge, Norwichville.*
W. Bro. Harry Couzens, W. M.
- No. 105. *St. Mark's Lodge, Drummondville.*
W. Bro. John Bartle, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 106. *Burford Lodge, Burford.*
R. W. Bro. David Curtis, Proxy.
- No. 108. *Blenheim Lodge, Drumbo.*
W. Bro. George Risk, Proxy.
- No. 109. *Albion Lodge, Harrowsmith.*
W. Bro. E. J. B. Pense, Proxy.
- No. 110. *Central Lodge, Prescott.*
W. Bro. John Francis, W. M.; R. W. Bro. James Reynolds, P. M.
- No. 114. *Hope Lodge, Port Hope.*
W. Bro. F. E. Gandrie, W. M.; Bro. William Gothwaite, S.W.
- No. 115. *Ivy Lodge, Beamsville.*
W. Bro. J. E. Beeton, Proxy.
- No. 116. *Cassia Lodge, Widder.*
W. Bros. G. W. Holwell, W. M.; James Wilson, P. M.
- No. 118. *Union Lodge, Schomberg.*
W. Bro. F. D. Ramsay, W. M.
- No. 119. *Maple Leaf Lodge, Bath.*
W. Bro. William Belfour, W. M.; Bro. C. B. Huffman S.W.
- No. 120. *Warren Lodge, Fingal.*
W. Bro. John Cascaden, Proxy.
- No. 121. *Doric Lodge, Brantford.*
W. Bro. W. H. Masterson, W. M.
- No. 122. *Renfrew Lodge, Renfrew.*
W. Bro. T. B. Muir, W. M.
- No. 123. *The Belleville Lodge, Belleville.*
W. Bro. Robert Newbery, W. M.; R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson, P. M.; W. Bro. James Smith, P. M.

- No. 125. *Cornwall Lodge, Cornwall.*
W. Bro. William Hill, W. M.
- No. 128. *Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke.*
W. Bro. Alexander Moffat, Jr., W. M.; R. W. Bro. W. R. White, P. M.; V. W. Bro. Andrew Irving, Jr., P. M.
- No. 129. *The Rising Sun Lodge, Aurora.*
W. Bro. E. Pease, W. M.
- No. 133. *Lebanon Forest Lodge, Exeter.*
W. Bro. G. A. K. McLeod, W. M.
- No. 135. *St. Clair Lodge, Milton.*
W. Bro. William Gibson, Proxy.
- No. 136. *Richardson Lodge, Stouffville.*
W. Bro. F. R. Armstrong, W. M.; V. W. Bro. G. R. Vanzant, P. M.
- No. 137. *Pythagoras Lodge, Meaford.*
W. Bro. Robert McIntosh, W. M.
- No. 139. *Lebanon Lodge, Oshawa.*
W. Bro. G. W. Kellond, W. M.; V. W. Bro. John Boyd, P. M.
W. Bro. William T. Brown, P. M.
- No. 140. *Malahide Lodge, Aylmer.*
R. W. Bro. James Moffat, Proxy.
- No. 142. *Excelsior Lodge, Morrisburg.*
W. Bro. C. A. Summers, Proxy.
- No. 143. *Friendly Brothers' Lodge, Iroquois.*
W. Bro. James Stephenson, W. M.
- No. 144. *Tecumseh Lodge, Stratford.*
W. Bro. G. J. Waugh, W. M.
- No. 146. *Prince of Wales Lodge, Newburgh.*
W. Bro. A. K. Aylsworth, W. M.
- No. 147. *Mississippi Lodge, Almonte.*
R. W. Bro. William Mostyn, W. M.; Bro. William Smith, S. W.
- No. 148. *Civil Service Lodge, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. John Walsh, W. M.; Bro. T. N. Christie, S. W.;
M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, P. M.; R. W. Bros. A. J. Cambie, P. M.; J. J. Gemmill, P. M.
- No. 149. *Erie Lodge, Port Dover.*
R. W. Bro. Chauncey Bennett, Proxy.
- No. 150. *Hastings Lodge, Hastings.*
W. Bro. William M. Orr, W. M.

- No. 151. *The Grand River Lodge, Berlin.*
W. Bro. William Hendry, P. M.
- No. 154. *Irving Lodge, Lucan.*
R. W. Bro. James Sutton, W. M.
- No. 155. *Peterboro' Lodge, Peterboro'.*
W. Bro. H. Rush, W. M.; R. W. Bro. C. D. Macdonnell, P. M.;
W. Bro. J. O'Donnell, P. M.
- No. 156. *York Lodge, Eglinton.*
W. Bro. John Fisher, P. M. Proxy.
- No. 157. *Simpson Lodge, Newboro'.*
M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, P. M.
- No. 158. *Alexandra Lodge, Oil Springs.*
R. W. Bro. T. C. Macnabb, Proxy.
- No. 159. *Goodwood Lodge, Richmond.*
W. Bro. D. Beatty, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 161. *Percy Lodge, Warkworth.*
W. Bro. A. E. Mallory, W. M.
- No. 164. *Star in the East Lodge, Wellington.*
R. W. Bro. Donald Ross, Proxy.
- No. 165. *Burlington Lodge, Wellington Square.*
R. W. Bro. Richard Brierley, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 169. *Macnab Lodge, Port Colborne.*
W. Bro. James H. Taylor, Proxy.
- No. 170. *Britannia Lodge, Seaforth.*
V. W. Bro. H. L. Vercoe, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. James H.
Benson, P. M.
- No. 171. *Prince of Wales Lodge, Iowa.*
W. Bro. J. Cascaden, W. M.
- No. 172. *Ayr Lodge, Ayr.*
W. Bro. A. H. Kay, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 174. *Walsingham Lodge, Port Rowan.*
R. W. Bro. Chamcey Bennett, P. M.
- No. 176. *Spartan Lodge, Sparta.*
R. W. Bro. G. S. Birrell, Proxy.
- No. 177. *The Builders Lodge, Ottawa.*
V. W. Bro. Samuel Rogers, W. M.; Bro. W. Mills, S. W.;
W. Bros. E. B. Butterworth, P. M.; C. Leggo, P. M.

- No. 178. *Plattsville Lodge, Plattsville.*
W. Bro. George Risk, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 180. *Speed Lodge, Guelph.*
W. Bro. S. R. Moffat, W. M.
- No. 181. *Oriental Lodge, Port Burwell.*
R. W. Bro. Channcey Bennett, Proxy.
- No. 183. *Prince Albert Lodge, Port Perry.*
W. Bro. John Rolph, W. M.; Bro. A. W. Roberts, S. W.
- No. 185. *Enniskillen Lodge, York.*
W. Bro. G. B. Stephenson, W. M.
- No. 186. *Plantagenet Lodge, Plantagenet.*
W. Bros. Henry Smith, W. M.; Wm. Story, P. M.
- No. 189. *Filius Viduæ, Adolphustown.*
W. Bro. J. C. Chamberlain, W. M.
- No. 190. *Belmont Lodge, Belmont.*
R. W. Bro. James Sutton, Proxy.
- No. 194. *Petrolia Lodge, Petrolia.*
W. Bro. John Fraser, W. M.
- No. 195. *The Tuscan Lodge, London.*
Bros. John R. Dixon, S. W.; C. F. Goodhue, J. W.; R. W. Bro. G. S. Birrell, P. M.
- No. 196. *Madauaska Lodge, Arnprior.*
W. Bro. James E. Maynard, W. M.
- No. 197. *Saugeen Lodge, Walkerton.*
W. Bros. H. P. O'Connor, W. M.; J. G. Cooper, P. M.
- No. 200. *St. Alban's Lodge, Mount Forest.*
R. W. Bro. John McLaren, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 201. *Leeds Lodge, Gananoque.*
V. W. Bro. John Ormiston, W. M.
- No. 203. *Irvine Lodge, Elora.*
W. Bro. John MacDonald, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 205. *New Dominion Lodge, New Hamburg.*
W. Bro. G. J. Waugh, Proxy.
- No. 209 a. *St. John's Lodge, London.*
W. Bro. T. H. Tracy, W. M.; Bros. Wm. Hawthorn, S. W.;
B. W. Greer, J. W.
- No. 209. *Evergreen Lodge, Lanark.*
W. Bro. J. F. Kennedy, Proxy.

- No. 214. *Craig Lodge, Ailsa Craig.*
R. W. Bro. James Sutton, Proxy: W. Bro. James Wilson, P. M.
- No. 215. *Lake Lodge, Ameliasburg.*
Bro. J. G. Johnston, S. W.
- No. 216. *Harris Lodge, Orangetown.*
W. Bro. A. MacGowan, W. M.: Bro. P. M. Barker, J. W.
- No. 218. *Stevenson Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. James Martin, jr., W. M.: R. W. Bro. J. G. Burns, P. M.
- No. 219. *Credit Lodge, Georgetown.*
W. Bro. D. McKenzie, W. M.
- No. 220. *Zeredatha Lodge, Uxbridge.*
W. Bro. J. E. Gould, W. M.: V. W. Bro. G. H. Dartnell, P. M.
- No. 221. *Mountain Lodge, Thorold.*
W. Bro. James Arnold, W. M.
- No. 223. *Norwood Lodge, Norwood.*
Bro. S. H. Dewart, S. W.
- No. 228. *Prince Arthur Lodge, Odessa.*
W. Bro. J. K. Ross, W. M.: V. W. Bro. A. P. Booth, P. M.
- No. 229. *Ionic Lodge, Brampton.*
V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, Proxy.
- No. 230. *Kerr Lodge, Bell Ewart.*
V. W. Bro. Robert King, Proxy.
- No. 231. *Fidelity Lodge, Ottawa.*
R. W. Bro. E. C. Barber, W. M.: Bros. Jonas Hagey, S. W.:
Alexander Taylor, J. W.: W. Bro. W. Rea, P. M.
- No. 233. *Doric Lodge, Park Hill.*
W. Bro. A. Jamieson, Proxy.
- No. 234. *Beaver Lodge, Clarkshurg.*
W. Bro. Robert McIntosh, Proxy.
- No. 235. *Aldworth Lodge, Paisley.*
W. Bro. H. P. O'Connor, Proxy.
- No. 236. *Manitoba Lodge, Bondhead.*
W. Bro. F. D. Ramsay, Proxy.
- No. 238. *Havelock Lodge, Watford.*
R. W. Bro. T. C. Macnabb, Proxy.
- No. 243. *St. George Lodge, St. George.*
W. Bros. E. E. Kitchen, W. M.: Benjamin Bell, P. M.

- No. 245. *Tecumseh Lodge, Thamesville.*
W. Bro. Michael Houston, Proxy.
- No. 247. *Ashlar Lodge, Yorkville.*
V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, Proxy.
- No. 248. *Eureka Lodge, Pakenham.*
W. Bro. William Cunningham, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. W. Pickup, P. M.
- No. 249. *Caledonian Lodge, Angus.*
R. W. Bro. John Nettleton, Proxy.
- No. 253. *Minden Lodge, Kingston.*
W. Bro. E. J. B. Pense, W. M.
- No. 254. *Clifton Lodge, Clifton.*
M. W. Bro. James Seymour, Proxy.
- No. 256. *Farran's Point Lodge, Farran's Point.*
W. Bros. C. A. Summers, W. M.; C. F. H. Forbes, P. M.
- No. 257. *Galt Lodge, Galt.*
Bro. William Cowan, S. W.
- No. 258. *Guelph Lodge, Guelph.*
W. Bro. Hugh Walker, W. M.
- No. 259. *Springfield Lodge, Springfield.*
W. Bro. J. Newell, W. M.
- No. 260. *Washington Lodge, Petrolia.*
W. Bro. John Fraser, Proxy.
- No. 262. *Harriston Lodge, Harriston.*
R. W. Bro. John McLaren, Proxy.
- No. 264. *Chaudiere Lodge, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. P. N. Mason, W. M.
- No. 265. *Patterson Lodge, Thornhill.*
W. Bro. John Fisher, Proxy.
- No. 266. *Northern Light Lodge, Kincardine.*
R. W. Bro. John Nettleton, Proxy.
- No. 267. *Parthenon Lodge, Chatham.*
W. Bro. W. J. Howard, W. M.
- No. 268. *Verulam Lodge, Bobcaygeon.*
W. Bro. J. O'Donnell, Proxy.
- No. 269. *Brougham Union Lodge, Brougham.*
W. Bro. Rev. Walter R. Ross, W. M.

- No. 270. *Cedar Lodge, Oshawa.*
V. W. Bro. John Boyd Proxy.
- No. 277. *Seymour Lodge, Port Dalhousie.*
M. W. Bro. James Seymour, P. M. Proxy.
- No. 279. *New Hope Lodge, Hespeler.*
W. Bro. John Cavers, Proxy.
- No. 280. *Mount Sinai Lodge, Napanee.*
Bro. John R. Pruyn, S. W.
- No. 282. *Lorne Lodge, Glencoe.*
R. W. Bro. James Moffat, Proxy.
- No. 283. *Eureka Lodge, Belleville.*
W. Bro. W. L. Hamilton, W. M.; R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson, P. M.
- No. 284. *St. John's Lodge, Brussels.*
R. W. Bro. James H. Benson, Proxy.
- No. 286. *Wingham Lodge, Wingham.*
W. Bro. John Ritchie, W. M.
- No. 290. *Leamington Lodge, Leamington.*
R. W. Bro. T. C. Macnabb, Proxy.
- No. 291. *Dufferin Lodge, West Flamboro.*
W. Bro. Alfred Jones, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 292. *Robertson Lodge, Nobleton.*
W. Bro. Joseph Smelser, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 295. *Conestogo Lodge, Drayton.*
W. Bro. Lachlan McKellar, W. M.
- No. 296. *Temple, Lodge, St. Catharines.*
W. Bro. John Reid, W. M.
- No. 297. *Preston Lodge, Preston.*
V. W. Bro. W. D. Hepburn, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, P. M.
- No. 299. *Victoria Lodge, Centreville.*
W. Bro. M. J. Beeman, W. M.
- No. 301. *Hanover Lodge, Hanover.*
W. Bro. H. P. O'Connor, Proxy.
- No. 302. *St. David's Lodge, St. Thomas.*
W. Bro. John Waddell, W. M.
- No. 303. *Blyth Lodge, Blyth.*
R. W. Bro. James H. Benson, Proxy.

- No. 304. *Minerva Lodge, Victoria.*
V. W. Bro. Robert King, Proxy.
- No. 308. *Grafton Lodge, Grafton.*
W. Bro. F. J. Drake, W. M.
- No. 310. *Enterprise Lodge, Beachburg.*
V. W. Bro. Andrew Irving, jr., Proxy.
- No. 313. *Clementi Lodge, Lakefield.*
W. Bro. J. O'Donnell, Proxy.
- No. 314. *Blair Lodge, Palmerston.*
R. W. Bro. John McLaren, Proxy.
- No. 316. *Doric Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. James Summers, W. M.
- No. 317. *The Hiram Lodge, Dundas.*
R. W. Bro. Richard Brierley, Proxy.
- No. 319. *Hiram Lodge, Cheapside.*
R. W. Bro. D. E. Broderick, Proxy.
- No. 321. *Walker Lodge, Acton West.*
W. Bros. Caleb Chase, W. M.; Hugh Walker, P. M.
- No. 322. *North Star Lodge, Owen Sound.*
R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, Proxy.
- No. 324. *Temple Lodge, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. J. M. Gibson, W. M.; R. W. Bros. David McLellan, P. M.; Hugh Murray, P. M.; Richard Brierley, P. M.; W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, P. M.
- No. 325. *Orono Lodge, Orono.*
W. Bro. W. S. Griffin, W. M.
- No. 326. *Zetland Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. R. J. Hovenden, W. M.; R. W. Bros. Daniel Spry, P. M.; J. G. Burns, P. M.; S. B. Harman, P. M.; V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, P. M.; W. Bro. J. Martin, jr., P. M.
- No. 327. *The Hammond Lodge, Wardsville.*
R. W. Bro. G. S. Birrell, Proxy.
- No. 328. *Ionic Lodge, Napier.*
W. Bro. H. G. Lindsay, Proxy.
- No. 329. *King Solomon's Lodge, Jarvis.*
W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal, W. M.
- No. 330. *Corinthian Lodge, London East.*
W. Bro. Wm. Fleming, Proxy.

- No. 332. *Stratford Lodge, Stratford.*
W. Bro. G. J. Wagh. Proxy.
- U. D. *Prince Arthur Lodge, Arthur.*
Bro. James Mude, S. W.
- U. D. *Myrtle Lodge, Port Robinson.*
Bro. Stephen Beatty, J. W.
- U. D. *Orient Lodge, Don Mount.*
R. W. Bro. J. G. Burns, W. M.; W. Bro. James Martin, jr.,
P. M.
- U. D. *St. John's Lodge, Pittsburg.*
W. Bro. Rev. John Gallaher. W. M.
- U. D. *Hiram Lodge, Wolfe Island.*
W. Bro. W. H. Godwin, W. M.
- U. D. *Occident Lodge, Toronto.*
W. Bro. James Wilson, W. M.
- U. D. *Mercer Lodge, Fergus.*
W. Bro. John MacDonald, W. M.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Credentials was received and adopted.

The M. W. the Grand Master granted permission for the admission of all Master Masons in good standing, as visitors.

The Grand Secretary read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during time of business.

The Grand Secretary commenced reading the minutes of proceedings at the last annual Communication, when

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Rev. V. Clementi, seconded by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, and

Resolved,—That the minutes of the proceedings of Grand Lodge at its Twentieth Annual Communication held at the City of London, on the 14th and 15th days of July, 1875, having been printed, and copies thereof forwarded to the Subordinate Lodges, the same be considered as read and now confirmed.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, and

Resolved,—That the minutes of the several Special Communications of Grand Lodge, entered by the Grand Secretary in the Minute Book, be taken as read, and are hereby confirmed.

The M. W. the Grand Master, delivered the following address to the Brethren assembled in Grand Communication.

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN :

We are once more assembled in Grand Lodge to take counsel together, and to discuss the interests of the fraternity which we represent. It is fitting that we should make it our first duty to invoke the Divine protection and power, so that we may be guided by His wisdom in our deliberations, and attended during our labors by His blessing.

As day after day of the year just ended has passed away we have been reminded of the uncertainty of life, and as one by one the members of the human family have been carried off, never more to return, we have been admonished that we too must be prepared to meet our inevitable destiny—"to leave our place among the living to take it with the dead."

Our last annual Communication was saddened by the absence of two of the most distinguished members of our Order whose earthly career had been run, and whose loss we have not yet ceased to mourn with true and heartfelt grief. Now we are summoned to attend to their last resting place the mortal remains of our honored Brother, M. W. Bro. Aldis Bernard, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, who died on the third of this month at San Jose, in California, whither he had removed not many weeks ago in search of health. M. W. Bro. Bernard was so well known to the members of the Grand Lodge, as to make it a work of supererogation on my part to dwell at any length upon the important part taken by him in our proceedings, since the formation of the Grand Lodge. He was a member of the Convention assembled at Hamilton in 1855, when this Grand Lodge was formed, and was then elected to the position of Deputy Grand Master, to which office he was re-elected in the two succeeding years; and in 1860 the great services which he had rendered to the Craft were acknowledged by having the honorary rank of a Past Grand Master of our Grand Lodge accorded to him; and from the time the Grand Lodge was formed, down to the day of his death, he took a lively interest in its affairs, and was one of the most active and useful counsellors at the Board of General Purposes, as well as at our annual Communications.

He was possessed of great judgment and tact, and had the command of choice and eloquent language. His tender heart was easily touched by the tale of distress, while the firmness

of his character enabled him to advise with caution and to act with decision. Many now present will recall his manly utterances in the cause of right, truth and justice ; and his eloquent appeals on behalf of the poor, the afflicted, and the distressed, still ring in our ears.

His cordial greeting will be no more experienced by his Brethren. His familiar and genial face will be missed at our annual gatherings.

M. W. Bro. Bernard took an active part also in public affairs. He was a useful member of the City Council of Montreal for many years, and was elected to the high position of Mayor of that city for the year 1874, the duties of which important office he discharged with credit to himself and advantage to the citizens.

I have learned that the remains of our esteemed brother are now being brought to Montreal, the place of his residence for a great part of his life, and that they will be interred with Masonic ceremonies on Saturday next, when I am confident many members of Grand Lodge will attend to bear testimony to the high esteem in which our departed brother was held amongst us.

During the past year it has been my privilege to attend several of the lodges in different parts of our jurisdiction. It is most gratifying to me to assure you, and I am confident it will be agreeable to you to hear, that I found them in every instance efficiently conducted and ably worked. I attribute the marked improvement which is to be observed in our lodges, in great part to the frequent inspections by the D. D. G. Masters, and the greater interest taken in Masonic matters than prevailed in years gone by.

NEW LODGES.

In accordance with the Report of the Board of General Purposes adopted at our last annual communication, I received and continued the dispensation which had been previously granted for holding

Prince Arthur Lodge at Flesherton, in the County of Grey.

I have also granted fifteen other dispensations for the formation of new Lodges, as follows :

1. Prince Arthur Lodge, at Arthur, in the County of Wellington.
2. Langton Lodge, at Langton, County of Norfolk.
3. Highgate Lodge, at Highgate, County of Kent.
4. Myrtle Lodge, at Port Robinson, County of Welland.

5. Dufferin Lodge, at Wellandport, County of Lincoln.
6. Orient Lodge, at Don Mount, County of York.
7. St. John's Lodge, at Pittsburg, County of Frontenac.
8. Bruce Lodge, at Tiverton, County of Bruce.
9. Hiram Lodge, at Wolfe Island, County of Frontenac.
10. Georgina Lodge, at Sutton, County of York.
11. Merrill Lodge, at Dorchester, County of Middlesex.
12. Nilestown Lodge, at Nilestown, County of Middlesex.
13. Occident Lodge, at Toronto, County of York.
14. Mercer Lodge, at Fergus, County of Wellington.
15. Georgian Lodge, at Penetanguishene, County of Simcoe.

In dealing with the applications for such dispensations, I made the strictest enquiry, and was satisfied that the essentials for prosperous lodges and creditable material existed in each case, before the desired authority was granted, and I am very happy to be able to state that what is already done is an earnest that the fields of labor have been well chosen, and give promise of excellent work in the future.

PUBLIC CEREMONIES.

1. A special communication of the Grand Lodge was called at Toronto, in August of last year, when, assisted by the brethren, I laid the corner stone of a new Church, in the presence of a large gathering of the people of that city.

2. In the following month I laid the corner stone of a new Church in London, having convened a communication of the Grand Lodge for that purpose. There was a very large attendance of the brethren on this occasion also.

R. W. Bro. Mott, D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Texas, being then in London, we had the honor of his presence at this ceremony, and we were much gratified to have the opportunity of thus meeting that distinguished brother.

Special communications of a like character were also held, and corner stones of public buildings were laid, at the following places :

3. At Strathroy, the corner stone of a church to be called the "Church of St. John the Evangelist," to be used by the members of the Church of England.

4. At Frankford, the corner stone of a church to be used by the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

5. At Dover East, the corner stone of a church to be called "St. Thomas' Church," to be used by the members of the Church of England.

6. At Kingston, the corner stone of a building to be occupied by Minden Lodge, as a hall and lodge room.

7. At Bethany, the corner stone of a church to be used by the members of the Church of England.

8. At Ridgetown, the corner stone of a church to be used by the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

9. At Onondaga, the corner stone of a church to be used by the members of the Church of England.

10. At Foxboro' the corner stone of a church to be used by the members of the Methodist Church.

11. At Belleville, the corner stone of another church to be used by the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

12. At Guelph, the corner stone of a Masonic Hall, to be erected by the Masonic Hall Company, for the use of the lodges in that town.

The records of all the above special communications will be submitted to you for your approval and confirmation.

The interest taken in all the above proceedings, and the attendance of a large number of persons on each occasion to witness the same, afford the best evidence of the high esteem in which Freemasonry is held by the community in general.

The corner stone laid at Bethany was the first public ceremony conducted by the members of our order in that section of the Ontario District. The brethren from Port Hope, Lindsay, Peterboro', Millbrook, Orono, and other neighboring places, turned out in large numbers, and I took the opportunity of addressing them upon the grand principles of our Order.

The celebration at Guelph, on Dominion Day, was the first occasion on which the brethren have taken part in any public ceremony in that part of the Province. There were about five hundred brethren in attendance, and several thousands of persons from that locality gave their countenance to the proceedings by attending to witness them, notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather. The enthusiastic manner in which the brethren of Guelph have undertaken the erection of their new Masonic Hall gives promise of success to their enterprise, and is at the same time a pledge of the interest taken by them in the great work of our Order. The new hall is well designed, and when completed will be one of the most substantial and ornamental buildings in Guelph, and will, at the same time, afford excellent accommodation for the craft in that town. The event was celebrated by a luncheon of a very *recherché* character, and this afforded me an opportunity of addressing to the brethren some observations respecting the nature and design of Freemasonry, and the duty which we owe to each other in the different relations in life.

The occasion was one of great satisfaction to our Guelph brethren. I have no doubt it will serve much to strengthen their hands in the important work in which they are engaged of diffusing the advantages and benefits of our loved Institution in that section of the country. I congratulate them upon the enterprise and energy which they have already shown. Upon the foundation stone thus laid may they be permitted to erect a structure perfect in all its parts and honorable to the builders, where the privileges of Freemasonry may be made known, and its principles may be inculcated in ages yet to come.

I have also held special communications of Grand Lodge for the purpose of constituting and dedicating some of the Lodges to whom warrants were granted at our last annual communication.

REPRESENTATIVES.

During the past year our relations with foreign Grand Lodges have been strengthened by the exchange of Representatives with five Grand Lodges with whom we were not in direct communication previously.

I have had the pleasure of appointing as our Representatives ;

1. R. W. Bro. D. C. Dawkins, near the Grand Lodge of Florida.
2. M. W. Bro. the Honorable John Yeo, near the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island.
3. M. W. Bro. the Honorable W. N. Kennedy, near the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.
4. R. W. Bro. the Rev. Dr. Dame, Grand Chaplain, near the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and
5. R. W. Bro. W. H. Freeman, near the Grand Lodge of West Virginia.

And credentials have been received by the following brethren appointing them representatives near this Grand Lodge :

1. R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, from the Grand Lodge of Florida.
2. R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, from the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island.
3. R. W. Bro. Æmilius Irving, from the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.
4. W. Bro. William Brydon, from the Grand Lodge of Virginia.
5. R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, from the Grand Lodge of West Virginia.

Vacancies having occurred, the following further appointments have been made as our representatives :

1. M. W. Bro. Reuben Mickell, near the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

2. R. W. Bro. Alexander Watt, near the Grand Lodge of Oregon, and

3. R. W. Bro. W. T. Darrow, near the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

And the following brethren have received credentials appointing them Representatives near this Grand Lodge :

1. R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, from the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

2. R. W. Bro. C. D. Macdonnell, from the Grand Lodge of Oregon.

3. R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

4. R. W. Bro. David McLellan, from the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and ;

5. I have been honored by the Grand Lodge of Missouri appointing me Representative of that Grand Lodge in the place of our deeply lamented R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris. It was a great surprise, but none the less agreeable to me, to receive my credentials as the Representative of this firm ally of the Grand Lodge of Canada, at the hands of that accomplished, talented and learned Mason, R. W. Bro. George Frank Gouley, who has on so many occasions proven himself to be the true friend and able advocate of the cause of this Grand Lodge. I trust that the more than cordial and fraternal terms of Masonic intercourse which have in the past existed between these Grand Lodges, may continue and be strengthened, and it will be my pride and pleasure, if I can in any measure be instrumental in furthering the maintenance of such felicitous relations.

We have also the gratifying intelligence that the misapprehension which existed in the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, with reference to the action of this Grand Lodge respecting the Grand Orient of France and our friendly relations with that body, has been cleared up ; and the resolution passed by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, conceding that the position assumed by this Grand Lodge was a correct one, removes all barriers to the friendly intercourse which existed in former years, and enables us to renew the reciprocal exchange of Masonic courtesies.

You will be gratified to learn that, notwithstanding the depression which has pervaded every business and trade, and has been felt by every class throughout the whole community, our financial position is most satisfactory. After discharging

all our obligations and providing a large sum for the fund of benevolence we have :

Investments.

Government Stock.	- - - - -	\$48,073 33
Canadian Bank of Commerce.	- - - - -	7,998 74
Bank of Toronto.	- - - - -	44 59
		<hr/>
		\$56,116 66

Standing at the credit of the following accounts :

General Fund.	- - - - -	\$30,357 90
Asylum Fund.	- - - - -	7,244 59
Investment for Benevolence.	- - - - -	17,899 29
Current Account for Benevolence.	- - - - -	614 88
		<hr/>
		\$56,116 66

The Auditors' report will be submitted to you, and it is therefore unnecessary for me to comment on the above statement.

"EDEN LODGE."

It will be remembered that at our last communication, the Grand Lodge adopted the report of the Board of General Purposes, respecting the application for the issue of a warrant to "Eden Lodge," London, recommending "that a warrant be not granted, but that the M. W., the Grand Master, be requested to issue his dispensation authorizing the officers and brethren named therein to pass and raise those already initiated in that Lodge.

In accordance with such action of Grand Lodge, as soon as the above report was adopted, I intimated to the D. D. G. M. for the London District that I was prepared to issue a dispensation in the terms of the foregoing report, at any time upon the delivery up to the Grand Secretary of the dispensation then in the hands of the members of "Eden Lodge," and upon a return being made of the work done thereunder. Before I left London, however, I was requested by the D. D. G. M. to stay action for a time. I was urged to see some of the brethren who had opposed the granting of the above warrant, and I was assured that if I would see such brethren all further opposition would be withdrawn, and that already a large number of opposing brethren had expressed their regret at the course they had taken. After speaking to some of these brethren, I perceived that it was at all events premature to talk of having the opposition withdrawn, and at the request of the D. D. G. M. of the London district and

R. W. Bro. Westlake, who saw me on the subject, I agreed to go back to London on my return from the seaside and ascertain if the hostility to "Eden Lodge" had abated, and in the meantime it was understood that "Eden Lodge" would not meet and would not therefore require the new dispensation to be issued—their desire being, if all opposition was withdrawn, to get a general dispensation with the assent of all—not limited in the terms prescribed by Grand Lodge. Before my return from the seaside, however, I learned that a meeting of "Eden Lodge" had been called for the purpose of initiating a candidate. I at once telegraphed to the Grand Secretary to notify the Worshipful Master of "Eden Lodge" that his dispensation had expired and to forbid him proceeding or holding any meeting under such dispensation. The Grand Secretary at once communicated the same to the W. M. of "Eden Lodge," but the meeting was held and the candidate was initiated, the W. M. stating that the Grand Secretary's letter did not reach him for some days after the meeting, although it had been received and opened by some person at the London post office before the meeting was held; the W. M. also contending that notwithstanding the action of Grand Lodge, the dispensation then in his hands authorized their proceedings and would continue in force until a warrant should be issued by the Grand Lodge, and stating that this was the opinion of the D. D. G. M., under whose advice he had acted. The D. D. G. M. also wrote me assuming the responsibility for what had been done, and as both assured me that it was only through the alleged miscarriage of the letter of the Grand Secretary, that the meeting had been held, I determined not to take action in the matter for a time, at all events. Subsequently I met the brethren of "Eden Lodge" at London, and explained to them that upon the dispensation formerly issued being transmitted to the Grand Secretary, together with a return of the work done under it, a new dispensation would be issued in the limited terms prescribed by Grand Lodge. I was then, and repeatedly afterwards urged to ignore the action of Grand Lodge and to issue a dispensation unqualified in its terms, but I invariably referred to the resolution which it was my duty to respect and enforce.

A return of the work done by "Eden Lodge" under dispensation was made, but the dispensation was not handed over, and upon my instructions the Grand Secretary applied to the W. M. for the same, such applications, however, were merely acknowledged and were never complied with.

On the 7th of February last I was again asked by Bro.

Westlake for a dispensation, either general in its terms, or at all events extending its operations until this Communication of Grand Lodge, in order that they might repeat their application for a warrant, but I explained to him that until my request for a return of the dispensation, still retained by W. M. of "Eden Lodge," had been complied with, I could not entrust him with another, nor would I say in what terms this new dispensation should issue. This occurred on the day previous to the last meeting of the Board of General Purposes, when a report was adopted concerning certain action of the D. D. G. M. of the London District in respect of certain other matters. On the 10th of February the declaration of incorporation of "The Grand Lodge of Ontario" was made by "F. Westlake, John R. Peel, W. H. Street, J. F. Latimer, and W. W. Fitzgerald." When I became apprised of this declaration of incorporation, a copy whereof is herewith submitted, and as soon as it was communicated to me that the brethren therein named had been holding clandestine and unauthorised meetings under the pretended authority of the body constituted as above, in utter violation of their masonic obligations, and in defiance of the authority of this Grand Lodge, I forthwith issued an edict suspending these brethren and others who had met with them for the furtherance of their scheme, from all the rights, benefits and privileges of Freemasonry until this Grand Lodge should take action in respect of their misconduct, and prohibiting all our brethren from having Masonic intercourse with them or with any brother recognizing the authority of this so-called "Grand Lodge of Ontario." A copy of such edict is herewith submitted. The brethren suspended under the operation of the same were :

Bro. Francis Westlake, of London, P. M. St. George's Lodge, No. 42.

Bro. John R. Peel, of London, P. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. William H. Street, of London, M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. James F. Latimer, of London, M. M. St. Mark's Lodge, No. 94.

Bro. William W. Fitzgerald, of London, M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. Daniel M. Bowman, of London, M. M. St. John's Lodge, No. 209A.

Bro. William D. McGlochlou, of London, P. M. Albion Lodge, No. 80.

Bro. Stillman P. Groat, of London, M. M., (late of) Durham Lodge, No. 66.

Bro. Charles A. Conover, of London, W. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. John H. Ley, of London, M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Subsequently, upon authentic information which I received, that they had participated in the seditious movement to subvert the authority of this Grand Lodge, I caused the following brethren also to be suspended in like manner from the rights, benefits and privileges of Freemasonry :

Bro. Peter Grant, of London, M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. William T. Edge, of London, M. M. Spartian Lodge, No. 176.

Bro. G. M. Beecher, of London, M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. Edward K. Slater, of London, M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. Joseph W. Jones, of London, M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. George Gray, of London, M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64.

Bro. George Wrigley, of London, M. M. St. John's Lodge, No. 20.

Bro. George Jackson, of London, M. M. (late of) St. John's Lodge, No. 20.

Bro. Alexander A. Boston, of London, M. M. Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171.

Bro. William E. Smith, of St. Thomas, M. M. St. David's Lodge, No. 302.

Bro. G. W. H. Davis, of St. Thomas, M. M. Springfield Lodge, No. 259.

Bro. James D. McCosh, of Lucan, M. M. Irving Lodge, No. 154.

Bro. Donald J. McCosh, of Lucan, M. M. Irving Lodge, No. 154.

Bro. Thomas Hossack, of Lucan, M. M. St. John's Lodge, No. 68.

Bro. Samuel C. Hersey, of Lucan, M. M. King Hiram Lodge, No. 37.

Bro. Edward Mara, of Lucan, M. M. St. James' Lodge, No. 73.

Bro. Lawrence Cohen, of Toronto, P. M. Antiquity Lodge, Montreal.

Bro. Mark Solomon, of Toronto, M. M. Wilson Lodge, No. 86.

Bro. Edward Meek, of Toronto, M. M.

Bro. James J. Hall, of St. Marys, M. M. St. James Lodge, No. 73.

Bro. Joseph Iredale, of St. Marys, M. M. St. James Lodge, No. 73.

Bro. William L. Judson, of London, M. M. Tecumseh Lodge, No. 245.

Bro. Oliver J. Bridle, of London, E. A. Eden Lodge, (late) U. D.

Bro. Daniel Turner, of London, E. A. Eden Lodge, (late) U. D.

Bro. Thomas R. Barton, of London, E. A. Eden Lodge, (late) U. D.

Bro. Joseph B. Sabine, of London, E. A. Eden Lodge, (late) U. D.

Bro. D. M. J. Hagarty, of London, E. A. Eden Lodge, (late) U. D.

Bro. Thomas S. Minton, of London, E. A. Eden Lodge, (late) U. D.

Bro. Peter Smith, of London, E. A. Eden Lodge, (late) U. D.

Bro. George T. Hiscox, of London, E. A. Eden Lodge, (late) U. D.

Bro. Owen G. Collamore, of London, M. M. Barton Lodge, No. 6.

Bro. William Wallace Oakes, of St. Thomas, M. M. (late of) Spartan Lodge, No. 176.

Bro. Theodore H. McConnell, of London, M. M. King Hiram Lodge, No. 37.

Bro. Charles W. Graham, of London, M. M. (late of) Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171.

Bro. Miles A. Wright, of London, M. M. Bothwell Lodge, No. 179.

Bro. M. Morris, of Toronto, M. M.

Bro. Frederick Smith, of Toronto, M. M.

Bro. Thomas Anderson, of Toronto, M. M. Ashlar Lodge, No. 247.

Bro. John H. Ley, alone appealed against the suspension, and upon his denying that he was in any way connected with the above movement, and at his request, I issued a commission directed to R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, R. W. Bro. Thomas C. Macnabb, and R. W. Bro. Chauncey Bennett, authorizing them to inquire into the matter, and to take evidence

touching the appeal of Brother Ley, and also concerning the action taken by the other brethren named, and to report the same to me. The evidence so taken by them, with their report, will be submitted to Grand Lodge for your consideration.

It may perhaps not be out of place here to say a few words respecting the statement put forth by the brethren who have formed the organization called by them, "The Grand Lodge of Ontario."

1. It is said by them that there exists no regularly constituted Grand Lodge of our Order for the Province of Ontario.

It is scarcely necessary, after so much attention has been given to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to recapitulate the various steps taken to form the same in 1855, and to maintain the same from that time down to this, its twenty-first annual communication, nor need we stay to call attention to the fact that our Grand Lodge has been recognized by the Grand Lodges throughout the world as properly and regularly constituted, with full and complete Masonic jurisdiction over the Province of Ontario. The fact that we have withdrawn from part of the territory over which we had exercised jurisdiction does not in any way impair the completeness of our jurisdiction over that portion from which we have *not* withdrawn. This has been conceded and recognized by our Masonic brethren all the world over—and the argument which has been raised that the name of our Grand Lodge is *now* a misnomer, and may be characterized as a question of *taste* rather than one of Masonic constitutional law. On this subject the brethren of our Grand Lodge have been controlled by the not unnatural feeling of affection and respect for the distinctive name of which they have so long been proud, and although the subject has received their consideration they have not yet come to the conclusion that there is any duty cast upon them to change the name of Grand Lodge so as to make it accord with the *new* name of the Province over which it has established its right to exercise Masonic jurisdiction. None of the other Grand Lodges within our Dominion have expressed any desire that such change should be made, nor are we aware of any inconvenience having arisen from the continuance of the distinctive name by which our Grand Lodge has become known in every quarter of the globe.

What shall be said, however, of those who find fault with the regularity of the constitution of our Grand Lodge when

their action is considered? Five brethren representing no persons but themselves, without the concurrence of a single lodge or any other Masonic authority, signed a declaration of incorporation as "The Grand Lodge of Ontario," and forthwith proclaimed themselves a duly constituted Grand Lodge. Not one lodge authorized any such meeting, or delegated any such persons to act on their behalf. Not one lodge has since approved of their action, or expressed the slightest sympathy with them or their design; and, although some misguided men have been carried away by their blandishments and by representations made to them, so that they have allied themselves with this rebellious movement to subvert the authority of this Grand Lodge, their industry and activity during the past five months have secured for them the small handful of men whose names appear above as suspended by me. And the men so suspended, I need scarcely tell you, in most instances have been the discontented and disappointed members of some of our Lodges who have looked for personal promotion and advantage rather than the furtherance of Masonic aims and objects. When we reflect that out of 305 Lodges on our registry in active life and vigour, not one has accorded any support whatever to the seditious movement, and that from over 16,000 Masons in active membership, and at least an equal number of unaffiliated, making in all considerably over 30,000, they have not been able to secure a more important following than appears above, we may be assured that neither success nor good in any form can attend their efforts, and that naught but disaster and disgrace will be the portion of those who have been so unmindful of their obligations, and of all who follow after or participate with them.

2. It is next said by the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario that with us "that active benevolence which is highly characteristic of true Masonry has become covered with the cold charity of distrust and selfishness, and the Grand Lodge funds have been spent lavishly in banquets and honors and testimonials to the rich, while to the poor, the needy, and the distressed of the craft, charities have been meagrely, and apparently, grudgingly doled out."

My Brethren—What should be said of men so unworthy as to hurl at the heads of members of Grand Lodge charges so unfounded and statements which you know to be so much at variance from the truth?

(a.) Not one dollar of Grand Lodge funds was ever expended at a banquet or on refreshments of any kind.

(b.) The few testimonials presented by Grand Lodge since its formation, and the distinguished services rendered by those who have been the recipients of the same, and in most cases the great pecuniary and other sacrifices made by those who have been singled out by Grand Lodge to be thus honored, justify me in dismissing this subject of attack with the simple reminder that no objection was ever raised to any of the testimonials voted, either by Bro. Westlake or any who now join with him. On the contrary, Bro. Westlake seconded the motion for one of these testimonials, and acquiesced in the propriety of voting the others.

(c.) Bro. Westlake has been one of the most determined opponents of the scheme for the erection of a Masonic Asylum, and seconded a motion to abolish that trust, and for the distribution of the funds collected for the erection of such a home for aged and indigent brethren, and for the widows and orphans of impoverished members of our order.

(d.) The liberality of the Grand Lodge in the matter of benevolence is too well known to require comment from me, and I may mention that irrespective of special grants and annuities made on this account, the expenditure of Grand Lodge on account of Benevolence from 1867 to 1875, inclusive amounted to no less than \$32,886. Every application to the Grand Lodge for assistance from our fund of benevolence has been liberally considered, and no instance can be named in which the necessities of the applicants have not been most charitably and generously dealt with; and it should be borne in mind that such grants have been in many cases only supplementary to the monies dispensed by the private lodges through their officers, and committees. In order that the extent to which such assistance is afforded to our brethren in distress and their families may be understood, I may be permitted to say that through the Board of Relief in Toronto there was dispensed

In twelve months ending 30 June, 1874.	-	-	\$1,499 00
" " " " " 1875.	-	-	1,364 00
" " " " " 1876.	-	-	1,648 00

And through the like Board of Relief at Hamilton,

In twelve months ending 30th June, 1874.	-	-	\$614 00
" " " " " 1875.	-	-	421 00
" " " " " 1876.	-	-	389 00

And somewhat similar sums in preceding years, to all of which should be added the moneys directly voted by the Lodges in those places.

Whilst the Local Boards of Relief in other cities and towns, as well as the lodges throughout the country have, with an equally generous hand, ministered to the wants of all who have been in need of assistance. It is not necessary however, that I should detain you with an enumeration of all the monies so applied. The above figures illustrate sufficiently, I think, the large sums granted by the craft throughout the whole jurisdiction for benevolent purposes, and form a pretty substantial proof that this distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart is to be found among the members of our Lodges.

3. I must not weary you by staying to argue the question whether the provision suggested for a stated sum to be paid to a brother disqualified from labour, and to his widow in case of his death, is a fair one or not, or better than the system which has hitherto prevailed, or whether such a scheme would afford an adequate return for the fees enacted for membership ; but I do not hesitate to pronounce it as entirely at variance with the fundamental principles of the Masonic order, and I feel that I cannot better express what my views on the subject are than by adopting and quoting from the address of M. W. Bro. Wilson to the Grand Lodge in 1868, when he said :

“MASONRY NOT A MERE BENEFIT CLUB.”

“In the course of the discussions which occasionally take place at our annual meetings, sentiments are sometimes expressed by the younger members of the Fraternity which have led me to believe that they neither fully understood nor appreciated the original design and aim of our institution ; but had come to regard it as if the great and sole object of our Association was the mere accumulation of funds for the relief of distressed Masons, for the support of their widows, and for the education of their destitute children, forgetting, apparently, the explanations which had been given and the lessons they had received at their initiation into our mysteries. Charity, in its largest sense, in its broadest signification, is a virtue dear to the heart of every true Mason, and that charity which is not only active, but passive, is freely exercised by the genuine brother ; he is ever ready to assist the distressed as he is to abstain from unkindness, uncourteousness, or the malicious construction of his neighbor's motives. The inculcation of every virtue, the improvement of our species, the advancement of learning and science, the study of the liberal arts, and especially the cultivation of brotherly love, these are some of

the aims of the craft and of its votaries. If there is to be found in our ranks any individual who has joined us actuated by no higher motive than self-interest, and influenced by the idea that he is thereby making the most judicious investment for himself and family, he will soon discover that he has not only deceived himself, but that he has altogether misapprehended the genius, the scope and the great objects of Masonry; for our Brotherhood is not for a moment to be placed on the same level with those mere benefit clubs which have recently been established, with the sole and avowed intention of making to the contributor or to his legal representatives a full and equivalent return in hard cash for that which he has invested in their hands. Neither is Masonry to be thus shorn of her fair proportions; nor is she to be circumscribed or fettered as to the discharge of her numerous duties. We are told that the three great tenets of a Mason's profession are Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth; and to you, my brethren, I now say, cultivate them all."

4. The vice of intemperance has always been regarded as a Masonic offence, and it requires no declaration on the part of the Grand Lodge to make it such. Temperance is enjoined on every novitiate, and I rejoice to be able to say that the practice of this and every other domestic as well as public virtue has been exemplified in the daily life and conduct of the members of our Order.

5. It only remains for me to notice the attack made upon the Board of General Purposes, which is characterized as cumbersome and expensive.

The Board is the Committee of Grand Lodge, one half of the number, exclusive of the *ex-officio* members, being elected by the Grand Lodge and one half appointed by the Grand Master. The business for them to transact is of such a character that it is necessary for them to meet, not only two days previous to the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, but also during the year between the annual meetings, and it must be borne in mind that in addition to the matters specially relegated by the Grand Lodge, the Board is charged, under our constitution, with all the committee work of the Grand Lodge; is to hear and determine all subjects of masonic complaint or irregularity; has charge of the finances of the Grand Lodge, and is to examine all demands upon the same, as well as inspect and audit the books and papers relating to the Grand Lodge accounts. The Board is also required to make the necessary preparations for the Communication of the Grand Lodge, as well as provide for the ordinary expenditure of the

Grand Lodge, and is charged with the care and regulation of all the concerns of the Grand Lodge.

Duties so important as these should only be committed to the most experienced and most intelligent members of the Grand Lodge, and they constitute a severe tax upon the time and patience of those who undertake such honorable responsibilities, calling for the constant sacrifice of their own private interests and comfort. It is only by attendance at the Board meetings that any adequate idea can be gained of the care exercised by that body in the most minute details, as well as the anxious and thoughtful consideration bestowed upon the matters submitted for their decision. The best testimony that can be afforded to the faithful and satisfactory manner in which these duties have been discharged in the past, is to be found in the general acceptance with which their recommendations have been met in Grand Lodge, the wellnigh invariable adoption and approval of the business transacted by them, and the regular endorsement given by Grand Lodge to their decisions. When these matters are all weighed and considered by thoughtful men, I venture to say that the most grateful and hearty acknowledgments of the Grand Lodge will be accorded to the members of the Board, and that the sums which the Grand Lodge, without any solicitation from the Board, voted to cover the bare travelling expenses of the members of such Board will not be grudgingly given.

But if there is any difference of opinion on any of these questions, (1), as to the name of the Grand Lodge ; (2) as to the manner in which our Benevolence funds are dispensed ; (3) or to the extent to which our funds should be applied to such purposes ; (4) or the uses made of our general funds ; (5) or the manner of electing our Board of General Purposes ; (6) or the extent to which that Board should be entrusted with the matters now in their charge, assuredly the Grand Lodge is ready to hear the same discussed, and to deal with the matter fairly, and none of these matters form any provocation or justification for the establishment of a new organization. Nor would any such provocation render the formation of such a new organization constitutional, so long as this legally established and recognized body continue to have cognizance of Masonic matters, and to exercise jurisdiction over this Province.

It becomes our duty then, my brethren, to consider what course we are to adopt towards those who have acted such an unmasonic part and have striven to subvert the authority of this Grand Lodge, and although the punishment is a severe

one, I am impelled to the conclusion that our duty to the craft at large, to this Grand Lodge, to the Lodges whose rights and privileges have been invaded, to the members of the Order who are exposed to Masonic intercourse with those who have acted in such an unworthy manner, demands the expulsion from our Order, and from all the rights, benefits and privileges of Freemasonry, of the brethren above named now under suspension.

My brethren, I have now submitted for your consideration the report of my official acts during the past year. My duties are almost ended; yours about to begin. You are to pass judgment upon my actions. Let me ask you to correct whatever you may find has not been rightly done. I have sought to govern with kindness and persuasion, but I have not hesitated to exercise the powers attached to the high office in which you placed me, when the necessity for imperative measures arose. I regret the unhappy circumstances that called for the extreme course which I felt constrained to adopt during my term of office, but in adopting that course I so acted with the conviction that I was thus alone discharging my duty towards you, and the interests which we in common have so deeply at heart. If I have erred, the error has been committed in the honest effort to serve you, and to promote the welfare of the craft, regardless of consequences to myself.

In committing this review to your care let me urge you to consider it in a Masonic spirit—liberally and fairly—and may we so conduct our deliberations as to be an example for those whom we represent and govern, and in such a manner as to win the approval of Him who rules everywhere.

J. K. KERR,

Grand Master.

(*Appendix A.*)

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN :

Whereas, we, the undersigned, are members of the Ancient and Honorable Order of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons :

And whereas, there exists no regularly constituted Grand Lodge of our said Ancient Order for the Province of Ontario, and we are desirous of organizing and constituting such a Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and accepted Masons of Ontario :

And we hereby declare and express our desire to become incorporated under the Act passed in the Thirty-Seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled an Act respecting Benevolent, Provident and other Societies.

The name of the society shall be, "The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario.

The purposes and objects of our Order and Society, are the practice of

benevolence and charity, to relieve the sick and distressed, and comfort the mourner, and to disseminate true Masonic knowledge in all its branches and degrees.

The principal and managing officers are, and shall be: The Most Worshipful Grand Master; The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master; The Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden; The Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden; The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

The following brethren shall fill the said several offices until an election shall be held as hereinafter provided: Brother Francis Westlake, Most Worshipful Grand Master; Brother John Robert Peel, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master; Brother William Hatten Street, Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden; Brother James Francis Latimer, Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden; Brother William Weir Fitzgerald, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

The Society shall meet once in each year at such time and place in Ontario, as the Society shall hereinafter from time to time at the annual meeting appoint, and at such other times as the Most Worshipful Grand Master shall deem it necessary to call the brethren together to transact any business pertaining to the management and welfare of the Order.

The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting in each year.

The Masters and Past Masters of Lodges, and the Wardens for the time being of lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be entitled to be admitted to the meetings of Grand Lodge and to vote on all questions including the election of officers.

The election of officers shall be by ballot, any other questions that the Grand Lodge shall hereinafter decide on to be voted by ballot, shall be voted on by ballot.

The Society may, from time to time, by a resolution at any meeting regularly called, appoint any other officers that may be deemed necessary, and at the same time declare that such officers shall thereafter be elected or appointed at the annual meeting. So soon as may be convenient the Grand Master shall call the brethren together to frame and adopt a constitution, by-laws and rules of order for the government and management of the Society, the same not being contrary to law or the provisions hereof.

(Signed,)

F. WESTLAKE.
JNO. R. PEEL.
W. H. STREET.
J. F. LATIMER.
W. W. FITZGERALD.

(Appendix B.)

GRAND LODGE A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA.

To the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Officers of Lodges, and all Masonic Brethren, to whom these presents may come,

GREETING :

Whereas, it is within my knowledge, that Bros. F. Westlake, J. R. Peel, W. H. Street, J. F. Latimer, and W. W. Fitzgerald, brethren within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, have signed a declaration of Incorporation under the style and title of "The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario," and whereas such declaration is an attempt to subvert the authority of the Grand Lodge of Canada, is detrimental to the best interests of Freemasonry, and is calculated to disturb the peace, harmony, and unity of the frater-

nity; and whereas, the above named brethren and others have been present at, and taken part in, clandestine meetings of Masons held in the city of London, under the pretended authority of the so-called "Grand Lodge of Ontario," in utter violation of their masonic obligations, and the requirements of the Constitution:

Therefore take notice, that the M. W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, has, by the power vested in him, suspended the above named brethren and others from all the rights, benefits, and privileges of the Order of Freemasonry, such suspensions to continue in full force during his pleasure, or until the Grand Lodge of Canada shall have taken action thereon.

The M. W. the Grand Master further directs and requires that you will not, under any pretence whatever, hold masonic intercourse with the brethren within named or with any brother who is in sympathy with, or recognizes the authority of, the so-called "Grand Lodge of Ontario."



Given under my hand and the Seal of the Grand Lodge, at the City of Hamilton, this 22nd day of Feb. A. L. 5876.

By command of the M. W. Grand Master.

Grand Secretary.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. the Rev. Vincent Clementi, seconded by M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, and

Resolved,—That the address of the M. W. the Grand Master be referred to the Board of General Purposes to report thereon.

M. W. Bro. Marshall B. Smith, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and M. W. Bro. Seymour. were announced and received with grand honors.

Communications were received and read from M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson. and R. W. Bro. the Rev. Canon Innes, regretting their inability to be present at this Communication of Grand Lodge.

D. D. G. M. REPORTS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, seconded by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, and

Resolved,—That the following reports from the various District Deputy Grand Masters be received. considered as read, and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of Grand Lodge and in the discharge of the duty devolving upon me, I have the honor to submit, this, my third annual report of the condition of Freemasonry in the St. Clair District.

I regret that owing to circumstances over which I had no control, I was unable to visit all the Lodges in my District, but from my inspection of those I visited, and from information received from those I did not, I am pleased to report that Masonry in this district is progressing satisfactorily.

I regret that serious losses have been sustained by Kent Lodge, No. 274; and Parthenon, Lodge, No. 267. The former lost the whole contents of the Lodge room by fire, fortunately the Secretary had the books of the Lodge at his residence, these being the only articles saved. Among other things lost was a very handsome bible, presented to the Lodge by the ladies of the village of Blenheim, where the Lodge is situated. The Parthenon loss was only partial, the furniture, carpet, &c., being badly damaged by smoke. The losses of both Lodges were covered by insurance. The Parthenon brethren have refitted their Lodge room and had it re-opened on the 18th of May, 1876, by a very pleasant reunion, the evening being agreeably spent by addresses, and with songs and music from the lady friends of the brethren. The Kent Lodge will be able to hold their regular meeting in a new Lodge room this month.

Upon a petition duly recommended, I applied to the M. W. the Grand Master, for a dispensation to open a new Lodge in the village of Highgate, called Highgate Lodge, Bro. W. H. Watson, W. M., to which the Most W. the Grand Master was pleased to issue a dispensation, and on subsequent visits found said Lodge satisfactorily progressing.

On 12th October, 1875, by command of the M. W. the Grand Master, I held a special communication of Grand Lodge at Chatham, and on the 1st July, 1876, at Ridgetown, for the purpose of laying, with Masonic ceremonies, the foundation stones of an Episcopal Church, and a Methodist Episcopal Church, respectively, which I duly reported to the Grand Secretary.

The usual dispensations for wearing Masonic regalia have been granted to the brethren on proper occasions.

Several of the brethren during the year who have been removed from our midst by death, were duly reported to the Grand Secretary, as required by the Constitution, and received Masonic burial.

I cannot close this, my third annual report, without again expressing my gratitude and sincere thanks to the officers and brethren of the district, for the universal kindness, attention and fraternal welcome, with which I was received when paying my official visits ; and pray that it may please the G. A. O. T. U. long to continue the harmony that prevails among the brethren of St. Clair District.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

THOMAS C. MACNABB,

Chatham, 6th July, 1876.

D. D. G. M. St. Clair District.

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—In accordance with the regulations of Grand Lodge I have much pleasure in submitting the following brief report on the condition of Masonry in the London District since the month of March last, at which time I received my appointment of District Deputy Grand Master.

I regret exceedingly that the urgency of my business avocations and other circumstances over which I have had no control, have prevented my visiting all the lodges in this extensive District in the short time at my command. I have, however, visited all but a very few, and have much pleasure in stating that I have been most cordially received by the brethren, and can safely report that the lodges which I have visited (with one or two exceptions), are working in a constitutional and satisfactory manner, the officers being well acquainted with the established ritual.

I am pleased to say that there have been no Masonic complaints made to me during the period that I have had the honor of presiding over the District.

The M. W. the Grand Master has issued dispensations for the establishment of two new lodges since the last meeting of Grand Lodge ; one held at Nilestown, and the other at Dorchester Station. Nilestown Lodge has nineteen charter members, ten initiations and two applications for affiliation. They have erected a commodious new hall for their own use, and are in a flourishing condition. I have been unable to visit

Dorchester Lodge, but from my knowledge of the officers in charge and from the reports of brethren who have visited them, I feel safe in recommending that warrants be granted.

I have to report the total loss by fire of Ionic Lodge, No. 328, Napier, and its contents, without insurance, and would recommend to the consideration of Grand Lodge the remission of their dues for the year.

On the third day of July, W. Bro. Dr. Sands, of Ailsa Craig Lodge No. 214, was buried with Masonic honors. Deceased was a physician of long standing, and had from the kindness of his disposition endeared himself to all who knew him.

With reference to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario and its promoters, I refrain from going into the question here, as the subject will, no doubt, be brought before Grand Lodge in another form, and I will not presume to dictate what course would be most advisable to pursue, but am of the opinion that Grand Lodge owes it to the craft in general, and to her own dignity, to take such action as will teach them, and all others who have attempted to usurp her territory and defy her authority, that such conduct cannot be tolerated, and that they must suffer the severest penalty in the power of this Grand Lodge to inflict.

I cannot close my report without expressing my warmest thanks to R. W. Bro. Burch for his able assistance and company on several visits made by me during my short term of office, and for his kindness in loaning me his regalia, this District not being in possession of one, and to R. W. Bro. Birrell, Grand Senior Warden, and other brethren in the city of London for their valuable counsel so cheerfully given on very many occasions.

In conclusion, I beg leave to thank the brethren of the lodges I have visited for the courtesy and kindness shown to me during my visits.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES SUTTON,

D. D. G. M. London District

July 12th, 1876.

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—I beg leave to submit my second annual report on the condition of Masonry in the Wilson District.

During the year I have visited twenty-four of the lodges in

the District, and have much pleasure in bearing testimony to their general efficiency. Although there perhaps might be many minor improvements, still, the general working is up to the standard laid down by Grand Lodge.

During my term of office I have installed the officers of a number of the Lodges in the District, and from what I could judge, in every case the masters were selected with great care in respect to the well governing of their respective lodges.

In February last I visited St. George Lodge, No. 243, St. George, for the purpose of taking evidence in the case of the appeal of Bro. G. H. Griffin against his suspension by that Lodge. My report of the case was submitted at the Semi-Annual Meeting of the Board of General Purposes held in Cobourg a few days later.

The M. W. the Grand Master having been pleased to grant a dispensation for a new lodge in the Village of Langton, to be called Langton Lodge, I attended on the 6th March last, formally opened the Lodge, and have much pleasure in recommending that a warrant be granted by Grand Lodge.

I granted a dispensation to the members of St. John's Lodge, No. 104, Norwich, to wear Masonic clothing on the occasion of the celebration of the Festival of St. John the Baptist. I have received invitations to be present at and have attended a number of Masonic gatherings, all of which were exceedingly well managed and passed off most pleasantly.

On the 1st of July I had the honor of representing the M. W. the Grand Master in the ceremony of laying the corner stone of a Tower to Holy Trinity Church, Onondaga ; the Incumbent being Bro. the Rev. Dr. Armstrong. On that interesting occasion I was ably assisted by R. W. Bro. D. E. Broderick, D. D. G. M. for the Niagara District ; V. W. Bro. Dr. King, and a number of Masters, Past Masters and brethren of the various Lodges in the Wilson and adjoining District. The day was most unfavorable for the ceremony, it having rained incessantly from early morning, but notwithstanding the disagreeable weather, there was a very fair attendance of spectators, who manifested a great interest in the proceedings. I was the recipient on this occasion of a very neat solid silver trowel, appropriately engraved, and a very flattering address neatly engrossed on parchment. Great disappointment was felt by the brethren at being unable, on account of the storm, to attend the pic-nic and luncheon very kindly furnished by Bro. George M. Johnson (chief), who had made extensive preparations for the occasion.

I am pleased to be able to report that in all my visitations

throughout the District there is but one opinion regarding the attempt of the so-called "Grand Lodge of Ontario," to cause a dissension in the ranks of the Loyal Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Canada. I have not heard of a single case of disloyalty in the District, and nearly if not quite all of the Lodges have passed resolutions condemning the unwarranted acts of the recusant Masons.

I held a Lodge of Instruction at the Town of Brantford on Thursday and Friday, the 10th and 11th of March last. The meeting was a very successful one, a number of the Masters, Wardens, and brethren of Lodges in the District being in attendance. The routine business of Subordinate Lodges was taken up and explained, and the several degrees carefully exemplified. I have to express my thanks to R. W. Bros. J. J. Mason and D. E. Broderick, for able assistance on this occasion, and to the members of the two lodges in Brantford for their kind attention to myself and visiting brethren.

There have been but few cases of death reported to me during the year.

In closing my report I have to express my thanks to the Brethren for their uniform kindness to me on all occasions and trust that T. G. A. O. T. U. may continue to bless and protect them and those dear to them, and to preserve the harmony that prevails in the District.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAUNCEY BENNETT,

Port Rowan, 7th July, 1876.

D. D. G. M. Wilson District.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—I have the honour to submit the annual report upon the state and condition of Masonry in Huron District.

The Lodges in this district number twenty-five. Twenty-four working under warrants and one under dispensation.

Owing to the great extent of territory embraced by the district, and the number of Lodges, I have been unable to visit them all. Those that I did visit, show a decided improvement in the correctness and uniformity of their work, and are progressing steadily in the acquisition of worthy material.

I am happy to state that there has been nothing brought under my notice during the past year, calculated to disturb the harmony of the Lodges in the district.

At the request of the brethren of Seaforth I had the pleasure of presenting V. W. Bro. Vercoe, of Britannia Lodge, No. 170, with a very handsome Past Master's jewel and clasp, as a slight testimonial from them of their appreciation of his efforts in the fitting up and furnishing of their present Lodge room in Seaforth, and of the high estimation in which he is held personally by the Seaforth brethren.

The Grand Master has been pleased to grant a dispensation for a new lodge at Tiverton, in the County of Bruce, called "Bruce Lodge." The lodge has started under excellent auspices, and I respectfully recommend that it receive a warrant.

I have been notified of but one suspension during the year. Three deaths have occurred, Masonic burial being accorded the deceased brethren.

I beg most respectfully to recommend to Grand Lodge the advisability of making some division of Huron District. As it is now formed, the distance to be travelled between lodges situated far apart from each other, and the great amount of time required in visiting them, render the duties of the District Deputy Grand Master too onerous and expensive to permit of his giving the lodges in the district the attention they require for the due advancement of the cause of Freemasonry.

My second year of office being now at an end, I wish publicly to thank the brethren of Huron District for the many acts of kindness and evidence of brotherly love shown to me during my term of office.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES H. BENSON,

Seaforth, July 7th, 1876.

D. D. G. M. Huron District.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—I beg to submit my report on the condition of Masonry in the Wellington District for the past year. In opening I may state that this District was set apart from the Huron District in the year 1869, and then contained within its borders eight warranted Lodges having a membership of about three hundred and fifty. There are now within its jurisdiction eighteen warranted Lodges and two under dispensation, possessing a total membership of over one thousand. I have been enabled to visit each of these Lodges once, and a number of them I have

had an opportunity to visit several times. It affords me pleasure to report that all are making favorable progress, both in the addition of members and in the character of the work performed. I find as a rule that the portals of the Lodges are carefully guarded and that the material accepted is such as to reflect credit on the craft. The system of "work" approved by Grand Lodge is generally very closely followed by the various Masters, and I have had little occasion to recommend alterations in their forms of procedure. So far as I have been enabled to observe there has been no important interruption in the peace and good will which should reign within the walls of the Lodges.

The subjects of Masonic complaint have been few. Only three cases have come to my knowledge in which charges of unmasonic conduct have been preferred against brethren. In two of these, sentences of indefinite suspension have been imposed, in the other, there is hope that an amicable arrangement of the difficulty may be arrived at. I am led to hope that members of lodges are prompt in the payment of their dues, as no cases of suspension for nonpayment have been reported to me.

One member suspended from membership indefinitely, having petitioned for restoration, his Lodge has concurred in the petition and forwarded a recommendation to Grand Lodge for his restoration to the general privileges of the craft.

I have been notified of three deaths, and all of the deceased brethren have been committed to their last resting place with the solemn ceremonies of the craft. Only two applications for relief have been forwarded to me, one being on behalf of a deceased brother's widow and family, and the other in aid of a brother who had been seriously injured, and having a large family depending upon him for a livelihood. Both have been submitted to the Board of General Purposes for their favorable consideration.

My correspondence during the year has been quite large, and many points of simply local interest have been considered and disposed of. Only one of these need be referred to here, that relating to the application of a candidate for initiation who had been accidentally maimed by the loss of parts of several of the fingers of his right hand. The candidate, morally, intellectually and socially, was most acceptable, but in consonance with the rulings adopted in cases of physical defect the Lodge was directed to refuse the petition.

The M. W. the Grand Master has been pleased to grant dispensations, on my recommendation, to two new lodges in

this District during the past year, both being situated in the County of Wellington. The first of these is named Prince Arthur Lodge, held in the Village of Arthur, the dispensation for which was issued on the 15th September last, the first meeting being held on the 5th October following. The other is named Mercer Lodge, held in the Village of Fergus, the dispensation for which was issued on the 5th April, and the first meeting being held on the 13th April. The rooms of both Lodges have been handsomely and comfortably fitted up, the furnishings of which, I believe, have been paid for. Altogether they commence operations under favorable auspices. I cordially recommend Grand Lodge to confirm them by warrants.

During the past three months I have issued five dispensations for festivals, all of which, I believe, passed off pleasantly and successfully. I had the opportunity to attend two of these, one held by St. Alban's Lodge, No. 200, and the other by Conestogo Lodge, No. 295, Drayton. The latter was especially interesting as it was made the occasion by the brethren of presenting a valuable service of plate to my esteemed friend and predecessor, R. W. Bro. Charles Hendry, P. D. D. G. M., as a mark of the personal regard of the members, and as a testimonial in acknowledgment of his services in promoting the interests of the Lodge. The gathering was largely attended by members, visiting brethren and their ladies.

Under a dispensation from the M. W. the Grand Master, the brethren of Guelph Lodge, No. 258, gave a ball on the 18th April last, in aid of the Guelph General Hospital. A large assemblage gathered, and I had pleasure in forming one of the company. The guests were kindly received and everything passed of agreeably and creditably. A fund of \$100 was secured by the entertainment and handed over to the trustees of the hospital. In the same connection I may note that the members of Speed Lodge, No. 180, in the same town, also subscribed a handsome sum in aid of the same excellent institution, to assist in treating suffering Masons.

On the 19th of August, 1875, I attended a Special Communication of Grand Lodge, held at Toronto, on which occasion the foundation stone of Grace Church, in that city, was laid with Masonic ceremonies by the M. W. the Grand Master. I was also pleased to be present at a similar gathering held in the town of Guelph, on the 1st July instant, when the M. W. the Grand Master laid the foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall under course of erection by the Guelph Masonic Hall Company, composed of members of the Fra-

ternity in that town. The proposed building will be a handsome one, and is estimated to cost, when completed and furnished, something in the neighborhood of \$20,000. It will bear unmistakeable evidence to the liberality and enterprise of the brethren engaged in its promotion. At the conclusion of the ceremony of laying the stone, the visiting brethren, and others, to the number of about four hundred, were hospitably entertained in the Town Hall by the brethren of the local lodges.

By the request of the M. W. the Grand Master, I attended an emergent meeting of New Hope Lodge, No. 279, Hesperler, for the purpose of consecrating, dedicating and constituting the lodge. Among others there were present R. W. Bros. Otto Klotz, and W. S. Burnett, P. D. D., G. M., of this district, and a number of Masters and Past Masters from Guelph, Galt and Preston. The ceremony of consecration and dedication was kindly conducted by R. W. Bro. Klotz, after which I formally constituted the lodge.

In conclusion, I have to say, that though my duties have been somewhat arduous, they have been largely lightened by the kindly greetings with which I have been everywhere met by my brethren. Among those to whom I owe a special debt of gratitude for friendly counsel and encouragement, I trust I may make no invidious distinction in mentioning the names of R. W. Bros. Klotz, Hendry, and Burnett, and W. Bro. J. D. Henderson, of Colborne Lodge, No. 91. In resigning to the district the trust committed to my care at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, I have full assurance that the same good fellowship and the same zeal in promoting the principles of the craft will prevail in the future as in the past, that the loyalty and affection which has been on so many occasions expressed in my hearing to the good old Grand Lodge of Canada, will be continued and strengthened as the years go by, and that full confidence will be maintained in the success of her destiny and the high importance of her mission.

JOHN McLAREN,

Mount Forest, July 1876.

D. D. G. M. Wellington District.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers, and Members of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—In obedience to the requirements of the Constitution, I respectfully submit my

report of the condition of Freemasonry in the Hamilton District.

I have visited every Lodge in the district (16 in all), except one (and this I expect to visit ere this report is in the printers hands), most of them repeatedly.

I find them governed by able, skilful and courteous officers, the work faithfully performed, and all the brethren animated by a laudable desire to live and work in harmony. To this there is one exception however, viz: Valley Lodge, No. 100, Dundas. The jealousies and distrusts which have existed therein for the last two or more years, have not been eradicated, and if the present unhappy differences continue I fear the worst results.

A charge against the Worshipful Master and Wardens for falsely declaring clear, a ballot for the admission of candidates, was duly inquired into by me, and found untrue. I expect some counter charges as a consequence.

With this unfortunate exception all is peace and prosperity, and devotion to the Grand Lodge of Canada.

A strict guarding of the portals against admission of clandestine Masons, is observed in all the Lodges, whilst deep regret and just indignation are felt against the unconstitutional action of the mis-guided brethren at London.

The wise precaution of insuring the furniture, &c., of the lodge against loss by fire, is adopted by every lodge in the district.

Dispensations for attending divine service have been granted by me, and on Sunday the 25th June, the largest and most respectable assemblage of Masons ever met for that purpose in this city, had the pleasure of listening to a most instructing and eloquent sermon from Bro. the Rev. W. W. Carson, now of Brantford.

The relations and duties of the craft towards society in general, and "*vice versa*" are being more and more reciprocally manifested. "So mote it be."

In December 1875, at the request of the respective Lodges, I had the pleasure of presenting W. Bro. D. McPhie, P. M. of St. John's Lodge, No. 40, and W. Bro. J. H. Tilden, P. M. of Acacia Lodge, No. 61; the former with a rich and elegant "Electro-plated Tea Service," and the latter with a beautifully embossed "Gold P. M. Jewel," both bearing suitable inscriptions, in acknowledgment of their faithful services.

On the 24th June, 1876, the brethren of the Barton Lodge, No. 6, presented V. W. Bro. W. T. Munday and W. Bro. Chas. Davidson, each with a beautifully chased and embossed solid

"Gold P. M's Jewel," as a token of esteem personally, and as a slight acknowledgment of zealous services in the interests of the Lodge.

In January last a ball was given in the rooms of our Masonic Hall, under the auspices of the A. & A. S. Rite, the proceeds of which (after defraying expenses), were generously handed to the United Benevolent Fund of the Symbolic Lodges. I take pleasure in acknowledging the existence of the greatest fraternal feeling between the two Orders in this neighborhood.

In conclusion, I most heartily thank the brethren of this District for the kindly and fraternal greeting they have extended to me on all occasions.

Sickness has prevented my visiting the most remote as often as I desired, and I feel that this has been a loss to me at least. However, I have made some acquaintances and friendships which I hope will last forever.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

RICHARD BRIERLEY,

Hamilton, July 1st, 1876.

D. D. G. M. Hamilton District.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—I have the honor to submit my second annual report upon the condition of Masonry in the Niagara District.

I regret, that through pressure of business matters, I have been unable to visit all the Lodges in the District during the past year, I have, however, visited all those lodges which I thought were greatest in need of my official services.

I have great pleasure in stating that I have found the condition of Masonry in this District eminently satisfactory, and that peace and harmony prevail in the Lodges.

During the past year, dispensations have been granted for the opening of two new lodges in my District, one at Port Robinson called Myrtle Lodge, and the other at Wellandport, called Dufferin Lodge, both of which, I am happy to say, are progressing more satisfactorily than I at first anticipated, and which I consider is attributable in a great measure to the skill and care of their principal officers.

I would, therefore, respectfully recommend that warrants be granted to these lodges.

My correspondence has been considerable, involving both

Constitutional explanations and questions relating to Masonic jurisprudence, which I satisfactorily and I trust correctly decided.

I had the honor to perform the interesting ceremony of dedicating a new Masonic Hall for Macnab Lodge, No. 169, at Port Colborne, by instructions received from the M. W. the Grand Master. On that occasion I was ably assisted by V. W. Bro. King and several other distinguished members of the craft.

I have granted the usual dispensations to the brethren of this district to wear their regalia on fit and proper occasions.

During the past year, I have been officially informed that the following brethren were interred with the usual Masonic ceremonies, viz: W. Bro. Jabez Amsden, P. M. of Amity Lodge, No. 32, who died on the 18th day of March, 1876, and was buried in Dunnville on the 21st; also W. Bro. Dr. Fry, P. M. of the same lodge, who died in Florida, on the 29th of March, 1876, and was buried in Dunnville on the 9th of April.

It affords me very great pleasure indeed to be able to state to this Grand Lodge that I have not met with any brethren in my district, who have expressed themselves as sympathising with the so-called G. L. of Ontario, but on the contrary, they have universally condemned the action as being both an irregular and unmasonic procedure on their part.

I cannot conclude this report, without thanking the brethren for the uniform courtesy and kindness which I have invariably received from them during my official visits to their respective lodges.

I now beg to resign the important trust which they have so kindly confided to me during the past two years.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

D. E. BRODERICK,

Caledonia, 26th June, 1876.

D. D. G. M. Niagara District.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—I beg respectfully to submit my report on the condition of Masonry in the Toronto District.

I have much pleasure in being able to report that all the Lodges which I have been enabled to visit, show great and increasing prosperity, and in almost every instance are governed by brethren well skilled in the work and earnest and zealous in the discharge of the duties devolving upon them.

During the year dispensations have been granted to four Lodges, viz., Orient, Don Mount, Toronto East, R. W. Bro. J. G. Burns, W. M.; Occident, Toronto West, W. Bro. Jas. Willson, W. M.; Georgina, Sutton, W. Bro. Alexander Williams, W. M.; Georgian, Penetanguishene, W. Bro. Andrew Miscampbell, W. M.; and I have much pleasure in recommending that warrants be issued to them.

I have granted five dispensations for holding festivals and public processions to the following lodges, viz: Manito Lodge, Collingwood; Simcoe Lodge, Bradford; Pythagoras Lodge, Meaford; True Blue Lodge, Albion; and St. George's Lodge, Owen Sound, and two for the initiation of candidates as serving brethren, viz., Blackwood Lodge, Woodbridge, and Ashlar Lodge, Yorkville.

Peace and harmony have, with but few exceptions, prevailed in the District, and but few cases of complaint have been brought before me for adjudication.

Where difficulties have arisen, they have generally been caused by the action of certain brethren who have endeavored to create trouble with the view of assisting those misguided brethren, who, in the City of London, have organized a so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and in nearly every instance the beginning of these troubles was caused by unaffiliated brethren who disturbed the harmony of the Lodges by endeavoring to sow dissension and create discord among those who otherwise might not have had any disagreement.

On the 16th of May last a paragraph appeared in one of the daily papers in the City of Toronto, announcing that a meeting had been held with the view of opening a lodge under the jurisdiction of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. Immediately on the appearance of this paragraph, after consultation with the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, I issued the following circular, summoning a meeting of the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of all the City Lodges to ascertain if there was any truth in the statement that several "influential gentlemen connected with Masonry" in this city, had given countenance to this most unjustifiable proceeding:

Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS' OFFICE,



Toronto, May 19th, 5876.

Dear Sir & W. Bro. :

I am instructed to *Summon* a meeting of Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of the City Lodges, to be held in the Masonic Hall, on Friday next, 26th instant, at 8 p. m., to take into consideration matters of great importance to the Craft, relating to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and to endeavor to ascertain if there is any truth in the following item, which appeared in the *Mail* on Tuesday, 16th instant :

"MASONIC.—An influential meeting of gentlemen connected with Masonry in this city, consisting of Past Masters and others, was held last evening. The new features adopted by the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Ontario, were fully discussed and carefully considered, the meeting being unanimously of the opinion that the general adoption of the said new features by the Masonic order, will prove beneficial to masonry in general. It was decided forthwith to organize a lodge in this city working under the Grand Lodge. The Lodge will be in working order in the course of a fortnight, when the Masonic fraternity of the city will receive due notice, and a cordial invitation will be extended to all to attend."

M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Grand Master, will be present.

If you are unable to attend, I respectfully request you to notify me previous to the meeting, of the cause of your absence and favor me with your views on the important subject to be considered. Masters and Past Masters, not members of city lodges, are cordially invited to be present as visitors.

Fraternally yours,

DANIEL SPRY,

D. D. G. M.

In answer to this summons a large and influential gathering of the craft was held, at which there were present all the Wor. Masters of the city, and about ninety Past Masters and Wardens, including many of the oldest and most influential members of Grand Lodge ; at this meeting I presided, and after a statement had been submitted by the Most W. the Grand Master, myself and others, it was moved by Rt. W. Bro. S. B. Harman, Past Deputy District Grand Master, and seconded by W. Bro. Rev. J. Gardiner Robb, Past Master, and unanimously resolved :

"That the Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of all the Lodges in the city of Toronto now assembled, having seen a paragraph which appeared

in a morning paper of the 16th instant to the following effect:—
'Masonic.—An influential meeting of gentlemen connected with Masonry in this city, consisting of Past Masters and others, was held last evening. The new features adopted by the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Ontario, were fully discussed and carefully considered, the meeting being unanimously of the opinion that the general adoption of the said new features by the Masonic Order, will prove beneficial to Masonry in general. It was decided forthwith to organize a Lodge in this city working under the Grand Lodge. The Lodge will be in working order in the course of a fortnight, when the Masonic fraternity of the city will receive due notice, and a cordial invitation will be extended to all to attend.' And having ascertained that no Past Master or other gentlemen of influence connected with Masonry in this city attended any such meeting, desire to express their surprise and regret that a statement so unfounded in fact should have been furnished to the press. They repudiate in the most unqualified manner the un-Masonic and unwarrantable effort adopted by certain London brethren to create a disruption of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and they unanimously express their determination to uphold the same in its fullest integrity."

Since then a Lodge has been opened in the city of Toronto, but I am happy to say that only two brethren, members of lodges meeting in Toronto, and those possessing little or no influence or standing in the craft, have taken part in its organization. During the month of June, another lodge under the same body was opened at Thornhill; at this place, I regret to say, there has existed in the Patterson Lodge, for a considerable time, a want of harmony among some of its members, and to such an extent have they carried their disagreements that many of those who have withdrawn or have become members of the new organization, assure me that they have done so because they could no longer submit to the annoyances to which they had been subjected. I have endeavored to have these difficulties amicably settled, and had hoped to be successful, but unfortunately here as in Toronto we had Masons who were not members of the Lodge, and one—an emissary of Bro. Westlake—appeared gladly to avail himself of an opportunity to foster and encourage the misunderstanding which already existed.

Taking advantage of this state of affairs, he succeeded in inducing a sufficient number to join him, and a Lodge has been opened. The action taken by unaffiliated Masons in more than one place, in aiding and abetting this most unjustifiable rebellion, calls loudly for this Grand Lodge to take some decided action in regard to those Masons residing in our jurisdiction, who do not connect themselves with a lodge. In the hour of trial, of trouble, or distress, these men remember they are Masons, and far too large a portion of our funds—in the cities more especially—is expended in aiding and

assisting those who have proven themselves to be unworthy of our countenance and support.

A very large number of questions have been submitted to me during the year for my decision, and as many of them were of a very important nature, I beg to suggest that in future Grand Lodge should provide every D. D. G. M. with a letter book, which should be the property of Grand Lodge, and that all decisions given during the term of office of a District Master should be copied therein, and that such book should be laid before the Board of General Purposes at the meeting of Grand Lodge, so as to enable them to examine all the decisions given, and to pronounce upon their correctness. Such books would lead to a uniformity of decisions, and in the course of time would become invaluable to District Masters in enabling them to properly decide very intricate questions, as well as being of great use to Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DANIEL SPRY,

Toronto, 10th July, 1876.

D. D. G. M. Toronto District.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—In compliance with the requirements of the constitution I have the honor to submit my report of the progress of Masonry in Ontario District for the year just ended.

It affords me particular pleasure to say that the Lodges throughout this large District, with a few exceptions, are being worked in a very satisfactory manner, the uniformity of work being almost as perfect as it can be made, and harmony, good fellowship, and that kind fraternal feeling so desirable among Masons, prevail among the Lodges and the brethren.

During my term of office I have held three Lodges of Instruction. The first at Brooklin, on the 11th and 12th of January, was not, I am sorry to say, as well attended as I expected it would have been, those present being few in number both days, and little interest was manifested in the work by the members of the Brooklin Lodge, the W. M. and Wardens alone devoting their time to it during the day. I was very much surprised, though in the immediate vicinity of the Port Perry, Brougham and Whitby Lodges, that not a single member from either put in an appearance, while Oshawa and Orono Lodges, located at a considerable distance, were well

represented. At the second, held at Warkworth on the 25th and 26th of the same month, the attendance was better, but yet, not what it should have been considering the number of lodges in the immediate neighborhood and the dull time of the year. The third Lodge of instruction was held at Lindsay, on the 13th and 14th of June, and I am pleased to say that it was very successful both in attendance and good results. For the purpose of testing an impression formed by my predecessor and myself I held these Lodges of Instruction in the interior of the District, and this year's experience has confirmed us in the opinion that such lodges held at convenient points along the front are productive of a much greater amount of good than can be hoped for in out-of-the-way places, as the former are accessible to a greater number of lodges, the members of which possess zeal enough in keeping themselves up well in the work to lose a day or two for the purpose of attending them. Having been present at a great many Lodges of Instruction held in this District during the past five or six years, I can say from personal knowledge that the craft is benefited by them, through the commendable rivalry engendered among the officers of the lodges, and while I have not been as successful in attracting large numbers at the instruction meetings held by me as I would like, yet I think my personal trouble and sacrifices during the year in holding them have not been altogether in vain.

Early in the year I gathered the impression that many of the lodges were sending summonses to their members which did not contain the amount of information required by the constitution, and I therefore issued a circular to the Secretaries to send me a copy of every summons as issued to their members for every meeting whether regular or emergent. I found as a result that a great deal of irregularity existed, but after repeatedly writing to several I succeeded in having my name entered upon the roll of every lodge in the District except one or two, and have since been regularly in receipt of copies of every notice sent out by each lodge to its members. I found this very convenient as it enabled me whenever an irregularity occurred to correct it, and besides it kept me constantly cognizant of the extent of the work being done by each lodge. It also enabled me to pick out meetings at which I was sure work would be done, and placed me in the position of being able to pay lodges an official visit without any previous announcement of my intention. I preferred doing my work in this way, first, because I have found that when the D. D. G. M. is "expected to be present,"

special efforts are made to secure a good attendance (I need not say that I do not disapprove of this, for I am always glad to see the lodge room well filled), but on examining the register I find that the average attendance is very much below that of the special occasion of my visit. Again I find that the W. M. if not well up, has some one present to preside for him, or the candidates very conveniently fail to put in an appearance. It is but fair to say, however, that the latter does not happen frequently. I have also found this the most effective method of putting a stop to the giving of suppers on the occasion of official visits; some of the members of lodges appearing to think that they are expected to do something of this kind on such occasions, or they will be put down as mean and niggardly. I wish to express my strong disapproval of all such entertainments as I think they are not calculated to advance the interests of the craft, but rather the reverse. I would recommend to the members of Grand Lodge the advisability of amending the constitution in such a way as to make it imperatively the duty of the Secretary of each lodge to send a copy of every summons issued to members to the District Deputy Grand Master of his District, as the advantages to be derived from such a course I have found redounded to the benefit of the craft in this District, and I have no doubt it would prove equally beneficial if applied in all the Districts working under this Grand Lodge. The extra trouble involved is but slight, and the expense to each lodge so trifling, as to be almost unworthy of mention.

On the 24th of May last the M. W. the Grand Master laid the foundation stone of a new Episcopal church, in the village of Bethany, in the presence of a large concourse of people. The occasion was a most pleasing and creditable one, the gathering of Masons being one of the largest which has ever taken place in Ontario District, and the eloquent address delivered by M. W. Bro. Kerr, after the ceremony, was so highly appreciated by all within hearing that I am sure a feeling of respect for our noble institution must have been inspired in every listener.

It is extremely gratifying to me to be able to say that during the year not a single complaint of any importance against any lodge or brother was formally laid before me; and in instances where differences of opinion have arisen I have had the satisfaction of seeing these amicably adjusted in a spirit of brotherly fairness honorable to all concerned.

The correspondence has been considerable, and I trust that the advice tendered in this way has been of benefit to those who have had occasion to address me, as in all cases I have

endeavored to give whatever information was in my power in as plain, concise and practical a form as I thought the circumstances required.

I have issued Dispensations to King Hiram Lodge, Lindsay; Golden Rule Lodge, Campbellford, and J. B. Hall Lodge, Millbrook to enable the brethren of these lodges to appear in regalia at festivals or attend divine service.

In nearly every instance when I have visited a lodge I have spent an hour very profitably in examining the minute books, and I am happy to say, that in a majority of cases, I have been able to compliment the lodge on the accuracy with which they have been kept; in a few I have found slight irregularities, which I pointed out to the W. M. and Secretary, and instructed them to the best of my ability as to the proper forms to be observed.

As a notice is at present before Grand Lodge in reference to the Division of Ontario District, I beg most respectfully to state that during the year wherever I have visited, I have made diligent enquiries as to the desire of the brethren for a separation, and have found a strong feeling of opposition to any change being made at the present time, it being the general impression that Grand Lodge will at no distant day make a revision of the Districts as now constituted, and it is my candid opinion that this would be by far the better course to pursue, as if a separation took place as proposed just now, two unimportant Districts would be created out of one of the most influential under the Grand Lodge of Canada, and it would be impossible to draw the dividing line to the satisfaction of the Lodges most interested, viz. : those on the boundary of what would be the East of the one and West of the other. Therefore I would recommend that the motion before Grand Lodge be not at present put to a vote, as I am convinced the time has not arrived when the change can be made advantageously.

I regret to say that I have not been able to visit all the Lodges in the District during the year, owing principally to my being convinced that a hurried visit of a few hours could not prove of that advantage to the Lodge that I would like, and my Lodges of Instruction having been held at points easily accessible to those Lodges I have not specially visited.

Before closing my report I desire to convey to R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves, P. D. G. M., Ontario District; W. Bro. Chas. Doeblor, W. M. of Ontario Lodge, No 26, Port Hope; W. Bro. W. T. Lockhart, P. M. Orono Lodge, No. 325, Orono; W. Bro. R. J. Winch, P. M. St. John's Lodge, No. 17, Cobourgh;

and others who have kindly assisted me in the exemplification of the work on many occasions during the year, and also to express my most cordial thanks to the officers and members of all the Lodges wherever I have visited, for the kind fraternal welcome extended to me on every occasion.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. PELOW, JR.,

D. D. G. M., Ontario District.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution of Grand Lodge I beg to submit this brief report on the condition of Freemasonry in Prince Edward District.

There are twenty-one Lodges in this District.

Owing to the large range of country over which this District extends I regret that it was impossible for me to visit all the Lodges or to devote that time and attention to the discharge of the duties of my office which would have been agreeable to my tastes and inclination.

Masonry in this District, so far as I have been able to ascertain, both personally and by report, is in a very healthy and flourishing condition. Although no new lodges have been established, those already constituted are in a very satisfactory state of progress.

A special communication of Grand Lodge was held in the Town of Belleville on the 17th day of November, 1875, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of an Episcopal Methodist Church. I had the pleasure of assisting R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, D. G. M., in performing the ceremony.

On the 22nd June, at the request of the Worshipful Master and brethren of Franck Lodge, No. 127, I had the honor of receiving a dispensation from the Most Worshipful the Grand Master to lay the corner stone of a new Episcopal Church, called Trinity Church, in the Village of Frankford.

Also, on the 6th July, at the request of the brethren in Belleville, and by the authority of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I held another Special Communication to lay the

corner stone of the Canada Methodist Church in the Village of Foxboro', both communications being largely attended.

I have granted two dispensations during the past year as follows: To Union Lodge, No. 9, Napanee, for a festival on 27th December; to Victoria Lodge, No. 299, Centreville, for a festival on 24th June.

While the Lodges throughout the District are well officered I desire to take this opportunity of cautioning installing Masters to exercise great care in the installation of brethren incapable of discharging the onerous duties devolving upon them. In every case I warmly urge them to closely examine the Worshipful Masters elect, so that the high standing of our order may be maintained.

During the past year, I am happy to state, but few complaints have come to my knowledge, and those of so trivial a nature and so easily adjusted, satisfactory to all concerned, that there is not any to claim the attention of Grand Lodge.

Quite a number of brethren have been cut off by the hand of death, viz.: Bros. William Sweeney, James Mulholland, and Alexander Patterson, members of Prince Edward Lodge, No. 18; W. Bro. Thomas A. Fairman, P. M. Consecon Lodge, No. 50; Bros. Alexander Webster and John Keller of Belleville Lodge, No. 123; and Bro. Samuel P. Shaw of Quinte Lodge, No. 241; also, Bro. David J. Prynne, a member of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto, and a Royal Arch Mason of Prince Edward Chapter, No. 31, Picton, who died in Rome, Italy, on the 2nd April, 1876, having gone to Europe last fall for the benefit of his health. His remains have arrived in Boston and will be in Picton in a few days for interment.

In conclusion, I would take this opportunity of returning my thanks to the brethren who elected me to the high and honorable office which I now hold, and to the W. M.'s and brethren of the various Lodges which I had the honor to visit, for the kind, courteous, and fraternal reception which I received at their hands.

I have also to acknowledge with thanks the promptness with which R. W. Bro. Mason, Grand Secretary, attended to all communications during my term of office. I consider Grand Lodge has been fortunate in having so good a successor to our late and respected Bro. T. B. Harris.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DONALD ROSS,

Picton, 6th July, 1876.

D. D. G. M. Prince Edward District.

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the condition of Masonry in this District.

During my year of office I have visited sixteen out of the twenty Lodges in this District, and have much pleasure in reporting that in nearly every case I found the officers well-skilled, active and sedulous in the discharge of their duties.

I installed the W. Master, Wardens and officers of ten Lodges in my District during the past year, and had the pleasure in many cases of seeing the new officers at once proceed with the usual work of the Lodge with the skill and ability of veterans in the service.

In accordance with instructions from the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, in the matter of the complaint and appeal of Bro. Taylor of Macoy Lodge, No. 242, I visited that Lodge, and had the pleasure of seeing the whole matter amicably and satisfactorily arranged on the occasion of my visit.

Two new Lodges, "Hiram," Wolfe Island, and "St. John's," Pittsburg, were inaugurated under dispensation during the past year, and placed under the charge of well-skilled Masters. The minute books of these Lodges will be submitted to Grand Lodge, and I have much pleasure in recommending each of them for a Warrant.

On June 27th, 28th and 29th, I held a Lodge of Instruction in Brockville, under the Charter of Sussex Lodge, No. 5, of which due notice was given to all the Lodges in the District, and an invitation extended to them to send delegates. Notwithstanding which, I am sorry to have to report that very few availed themselves of the opportunity of being present. In the working of the Lodge, I obtained very valuable assistance from R. W. Bro. G. M. Wilkinson, of The Anct. St. John's, No. 3; R. W. Bro. Thos. Wilkinson, Sussex Lodge, No. 5; W. Bros. Redden and Pense, and Bros. Baillie, Gordon and Pollock, of Minden, No. 253, W. Bro. W. Saunders, of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 85, and Bro. Thos. Seale, of Cataraqui, No. 92, and I hereby tender these and the other brethren, who, by their attendance testified their zeal for the interests of Freemasonry, my most hearty thanks. I am satisfied that much good resulted

from the Lodge, the minutes and register of which, I now forward for the information of Grand Lodge.

AT REST.

In my year of office I received official notification of the death of W. Bro. William Peyton Phillips, Past Master of The Anct. St. John's, No. 3, of W. Bro. Thos. Painter, Past Master of Builder's Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa, and a member at the time of his death of Minden, No. 253, of Bros. Alex. N. Scott and Richard Town, of Cataraqui, No. 92, and of Bro. G. Darling, of Leeds Lodge, No. 201, all of whom were buried with Masonic ceremonies.

I granted several dispensations during the year to Lodges in the District, nearly all of which were to attend divine service, and such displays in my opinion should be encouraged as much as possible.

Finally, I must tender my heartiest thanks for the uniform kindness and courtesy with which, at some inconvenience to themselves, the W. Masters and brethren arranged Lodges of Emergency for the purpose of receiving my official visit, and I would strongly urge upon my successors in office the propriety of holding a Lodge or Lodges of Instruction, because I am sure there is no more effectual means of securing that uniformity of work so essentially requisite to the good order and systematic working of our beautiful ritual.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAML. WOODS,

Kingston, July 11th, 1876.

D. D. G. M. St. Lawrence District.

OTTAWA DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN.—As District Deputy Grand Master of the Ottawa District, I have the honor to submit the following report :

Owing to circumstances entirely beyond my control I have been unable to visit many of the Lodges in the District, but I have made careful enquiries and find that Masonry is in a most satisfactory condition throughout the District.

Few complaints have come under my cognizance during my year of office, and these complaints have, in nearly every instance, been quietly and amicably adjusted and disposed of.

In the month of August last, Corinthian Lodge, No. 59, by re-

solution, surrendered its Charter, and shortly afterwards a number of the brethren petitioned the M. W. the Grand Master, to be allowed to retain the Charter. This petition, together with a counter petition from certain other members of the Lodge, were referred to me by the Grand Master to investigate the cause of the surrender of the Charter and the circumstances connected therewith. In carrying out this direction I discovered that a very bitter state of feeling had for some years existed between two leading members of the Lodge, and that the constant clashing between these two brethren and their respective adherents had been productive of so much trouble and injury to the craft that it was deemed better by the more temperate members of the Lodge they should take the action which resulted in the surrender of the Charter. This course was not adopted until strenuous efforts had been made to adjust the difficulty between the members at variance. I also endeavored to effect a compromise between the conflicting parties, but failing in every such endeavor, I was forced so to report to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, in whose hands the matter now rests.

I have, during the past year, granted the following dispensations for Masonic festivals, viz. : 1. Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264, Ottawa ; 2. True Britons' Lodge, No. 14, Perth ; and Goodwood Lodge, No. 159, Richmond.

It is my painful duty to have to report the death of V. W. Bro. William Henry Supple, a P. M. of Pembroke Lodge, No. 128, and a Past Grand Senior Deacon of this Grand Lodge, which took place at Pembroke, on the 22nd of June last. The deceased brother was highly esteemed and beloved by all who knew him. He was buried by Pembroke Lodge with the usual Masonic ceremonies.

No other deaths have been reported to me during the year.

The fact that Grand Lodge meets this year at the city of Ottawa, is a matter of extreme pleasure to the Masons in this District, and I can only hope that you may experience such a hearty welcome from the Masons of the city as will induce Grand Lodge to revisit us as soon as possible.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. R. WHITE,

Pembroke, 24th June, 1876.

D. D. G. M. Ottawa District.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, submitted the following

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Board held the annual meeting at Cobourg on the 8th February last, and now submit the report of their proceedings thereat

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

The Board thoroughly examined and audited the books of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, inspected the vouchers, compared them with the statements of accounts, payment of which had been authorized, found them to be correct, and with pleasure testify to the neat and concise manner in which the books and papers have been kept. The receipts and expenditure for the year ending 31st December, 1875, were as follows :

RECEIPTS.

	1874.	1875.
Certificates.....	\$3,446 00	\$3,337 00
Dues	6,985 00	7,622 21
Fees.....	2,272 00	2,085 50
Dispensations	549 00	473 00
Warrants	190 00	160 00
Constitutions.....	625 48	401 67
Proceedings and Sundries	2 63	51 47
Interest	2,630 16	2,544 48
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$16,700 27	\$16,675 32
Cash on hand 1st Jan., 1875		16,441 54
		<hr/>
		\$33,116 86

EXPENDITURE.

General Expenses.....	\$ 654 80	738 21
Allowance to Grand Master, 1874 and 1875....	750 00	250 00
Salaries of 1874.....	1,725 00	975 00
“ 1875.....		2,300 00
New Registers.....		124 35
Expenses, Board of General Purposes.....	1,067 33	994 67
Incidental Expenses of late Grand Secretary...		52 57
Testimonials	930 00	
Office furniture and fittings, new office.....		88 85
Reprinting Proceedings		1,221 69
Sufferers by inundation, Louisiana.....	200 00	
Grants to Mrs. and Miss Wilson, and Mrs. Harris		300 00
Grant to Lodges in Quebec		4,000 00
Medical and Funeral Expenses of late Grand		
Master and Grand Secretary.....		1,056 44
Rent, Grand Secretary's office, 1874	60 00	93 75
“ “ “ “ 1875		175 00

Printing Proceedings, Constitutions, &c.....	941 20	998 50
“ Certificates.....	404 11	529 14
Report on Foreign Correspondence.....	50 00	50 00
Dues on Lodges refunded.....	73 00	31 50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$6,855 44	\$13,979 67
Benevolence	5,605 00	5,925 43
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	\$12,460 44	\$19,905 10
Dominion Stock Purchased.....		5,365 83
Cash in Bank of Commerce 31st Dec. 1875....		7,845 93
		<hr/>
		\$33,116 86

The funds belonging to Grand Lodge are invested as follows :

Dominion Stock bearing 6 per cent.....	\$24,873 33
“ “ “ “	6,200 00
“ “ “ 5 “	14,500 00
Bank of Toronto, Asylum Fund account.....	628 99
Canadian Bank of Commerce, Simcoe.....	7,845 93
	<hr/>
	\$54,048 25

Which represents the balance at the credit of the following accounts :

General Fund.....	\$29,380 98
Asylum Fund.....	6,828 99
Benevolent Fund, Investment account.....	16,486 21
“ current account.....	1,352 07
	<hr/>
	\$54,048 25

The Board directed payment of the following accounts :

1 Grand Treasurer, Incidentals to 31st Dec., 1875.....	\$ 4 00
2 T. & R. White, Printing, 1874.....	7 00
3 Lovell Bros., Printing for Grand Master.....	8 00
4 Rowsell & Hutchison, Printing Asylum Report	12 00
5 Buntin, Gillies & Co., Stationery.....	12 38
6 Wm. Bruce, Engrossing Warrants.....	12 75
7 R. Haigh, Binding a New Minute Book	14 50
8 Murton & Reid, Coal.....	23 70
9 Oscar Evans, Blinds for G. S. Office.....	16 00
10 James Reid, Floor cloth “	36 67
11 Ennis & Stirton, Printing Rulings and Resolutions, Annual Statement, &c.....	251 40
12 Copp, Clark & Co., Certificates.....	352 35
13 Lawson, McCulloch & Co., Printing Proceedings, Constitutions, &c	1,073 71
14 Grand Secretary's Balance, Incidentals to 31st Dec., 1875....	82 34
15 “ Advance on account to 31st Dec., 1876....	100 00
	<hr/>
	\$2,006 80

The Board directed that order No. 1219, \$25, dated 20th July, 1875, in favor Bro. A. Marlatt, now deceased, be made payable to the order of the W. M. of Brant Lodge, No. 45.

In reference to the account of Lawson, McCulloch & Co., \$150, for heating and lighting the Grand Secretary's office for four years, the Board after due enquiry were unable to recommend payment of the claim, as the original agreement was \$120 per annum in full of "fuel," taxes, and all other charges. (See printed proceedings, 1870. Page 427.)

No evidence having been produced as to the value of the jewels belonging to King Hiram Lodge, Lindsay, the Board were unable to recommend payment of the account presented, \$86.45, for new jewels furnished to that Lodge by Lash & Co.

The Board had under consideration the large amount annually expended for printing, and directed that tenders should be obtained in order that this work may be done as economically as possible.

The Board instructed the Grand Secretary to send a statement of the amounts due by the several Lodges in the Provinces of Quebec and Manitoba, up to the date of their ceasing to be subordinate to this Grand Lodge, to the Grand Lodges to which they now belong, with the request that an early settlement of these accounts be made.

BENEVOLENCE.

The Board had under consideration the several applications for relief, and after due consideration made the following appropriations to be paid from the Funds of Benevolence :

No.	To whom granted,	Amount.	Through whom payable.
1	Toronto Board of Relief	\$150	Bro. James Spooner.
2	Hamilton	" "	75 R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason.
3	London	" "	75 R. W. Bro. R. Lewis.
4	Kingston	" "	30 Bro. L. Clements.
5	Widow of John Maybee..	20	R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson.
6	R. Nidas O'Comb.....	20	R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson.
7	Mrs. Milne	20	W. M. of Union Lodge No. 7.
8	Mrs. Hamilton.....	20	" " " 9.
9	Bro. Schryver.....	20	" " " "
10	Mrs. Hulburt.....	30	" St. George's Lodge No. 15
11	" Allen.....	10	" Ontario Lodge No. 26.
12	" Reid.....	30	" Jerusalem Lodge No. 31.
13	" McCallum.....	25	" Amity Lodge No. 32.
14	" McClelland	20	" St. James Lodge No. 74.
15	Bro. Donovan.....	20	" Northern Light Lodge No. 93.
16	Mrs. Hemphill.....	15	" St. Mark's Lodge No. 94.
17	" Hilton.....	10	" Corinthian Lodge No. 101.
18	Bro. Gartshore.....	15	" " " "
19	Bro. Newbold.....	20	" " " "

20 Bro. Tighe.....	20	R. W. Bro. Vincent Clementi.
21 Mrs. Allen.....	20	W. M. of Wilson Lodge, No. 113.
22 Bro. Pichover.....	20	" " " "
23 Bro. Wilson.....	20	R. W. Bro. D. Spry.
24 Bro. Fry.....	25	W. M. of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119.
25 Mrs. Barrigan.....	30	" Hastings Lodge, No. 150.
26 Mrs. Benedict.....	20	" Plattsville Lodge, No. 178.
27 Bro. Illing.....	40	W.M. of New Dominion Lodge, No. 205.
28 Mrs. Matheson.....	20	" Thistle Lodge, No. 250.
29 Mrs. Hortop.....	30	" New Hope Lodge, No. 279.
30 Mrs. Edgar.....	25	" Mount Sinai Lodge, No. 280.
31 Mrs. Smith.....	20	" Lorne Lodge, No. 282.
32 Orphans of Bro. Moat...	30	" Humber Lodge, No. 305.
33 Bro. Henry.....	10	R. W. Bro. E. Peplow, Jr.
34 Mrs. Turner.....	20	Bro. R. Armour.
35 " Wescott.....	20	R. W. Bro. R. Lewis.
36 " Griffith.....	25	" " "
37 " McIntyre.....	20	" " "
39 " McDowell.....	20	" " "
40 " Watson.....	20	" " "
41 " Taylor.....	20	" " "
42 Bro. Gammon.....	15	" " "
43 Orphans of Bro. Craib..	15	" " "
44 Mrs. Owen.....	20	Bro. James Spooner.
45 " Kesteven.....	15	" " "
46 " Kneeshaw.....	20	" " "
47 " Dixon.....	20	" " "
48 " Goldsmith.....	20	" " "
49 " Parker.....	30	" " "
50 " Jolley.....	30	" " "
51 " McGilvary.....	10	" " "
52 Bro. Murray.....	20	" " "
53 Bro. Adams.....	20	" " "
54 Mrs. Jackson.....	20	" " "
55 " Quackenbush.....	15	W. M. of Valley Lodge, No. 100.
56 " Page.....	25	" Credit Lodge, No. 219.
57 " White.....	20	" White Oak Lodge, No. 198.
58 " Patterson.....	20	R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason.
59 " George Smith.....	15	" " "
60 " Hugh Moore.....	10	" " "
61 " Andrews.....	25	" " "
62 " Howells.....	20	" " "
63 Bro. McPhail.....	25	" " "
64 Mrs. Wright.....	15	" " "
65 " Skinner.....	20	" " "
66 " Judd.....	30	Bro. L. Clements.
67 Miss Price.....	20	" " "
68 Mrs. Painter.....	40	" " "
69 " Horsey.....	20	" " "
70 " Andrews.....	20	" " "
71 " Davy.....	20	" " "
72 " McCadden.....	20	" " "
73 Bro. McDonnell.....	30	" " "
74 Orphans of Bro. Fowler	30	W. M. Colborne Lodge, No. 91.
75 " " Smith.	20	" St. John's Lodge, No. 104.
76 Mrs. Gott.....	20	R. W. Bro. Charles D. Macdonnell.

77	Mrs. McGregor.....	25	W. M. of Peterborough Lodge, No. 155.
78	Bro. Martin	25	" King Solomon's Lodge, No. 43.
79	Mrs. Sutherland	25	R. W. Bro. Charles Macdonnell.
80	" Wood.....	40	W. M. of Hope Lodge, No. 114.
81	" Benson.....	20	R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller.
82	" William Cockle...	25	R. W. Bro. Donald Ross.
83	" James I Carter....	20	" " " "

\$2,015

The following returns were received from local Boards of Relief as at the 31st December, 1875 :

TORONTO.

Balance on hand 30th June, 1875.....	\$492 20
Direct grant from Grand Lodge.....	250 00
Grants from Grand Lodge to individual applicants.....	330 00
Grants from Lodges 16, 22, 25 and 247.....	515 00
" Chapters (2).....	120 00
Loans refunded	102 00
Interest	9 80

\$1,756 00

Total paid for Relief, Funerals and Expenses... 1,046 00

Balance on hand.....\$ 710 00

HAMILTON.

Balance on hand 30th June, 1875.....	\$177 72
Direct grant from Grand Lodge.....	100 00
Grants from Grand Lodge to individual applicants.....	170 00
Grants from Lodges 6, 27 and 40.....	130 47
Collections at Church.....	49 97

\$628 16

Totals paid for Relief and Funerals..... 324 23

Balance on hand.....\$303 93

LONDON.

Balance on hand 30th June, 1875....	\$ 30 70
Direct grant from Grand Lodge.....	75 00
Grants from Grand Lodge to individual applicants.....	200 00
Grants from Lodges 20, 42, 64, 195, 209a and 330.....	162 00

\$467 70

Total paid for Relief and Funerals..... 374 17

Balance on hand.....\$93 53

KINGSTON.

Balance on hand 30th June, 1875.....	\$76 04
Direct grant from Grand Lodge.....	50 00
Grants from Lodges 3 and 253.....	26 88
	<hr/>
	\$152 92
Total paid for Relief.....	146 00
	<hr/>
Balance on hand.....	\$6 92

The number of applications for relief were considerably larger than in former years, and all being very deserving (except one case), the applications could not be refused without doing injustice to those in need, nor could they be laid over for the July meeting, by reason of the urgency of those cases, the only application which was rejected being one which was in reality not by any means a case of distress; the family having secured over \$2000 of insurance upon the life of the deceased parent, thus placing them in comfortable circumstances.

JURISPRUDENCE CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS.

I. In the matter of James F. Hanna, claiming to belong to Chatham Hall Lodge, No. 152, Antrim, Ireland, regarding whom a circular had been transmitted to the G. S. of the G. L. C., the Board directed that copies of the said circular should be printed and distributed among the Lodges of this Jurisdiction, to be read in open Lodge and posted in the ante-room.

II. In the matter of "Eden" Lodge, lately U. D. London, Ontario, the Board directed that the letter of St. George's Lodge, No. 42, and the telegram of Tuscan Lodge, No. 195, be transmitted to the Grand Master.

III. As to certain questions submitted by Rt. Wor. Bro. O. Klotz, the Board consider that it is inexpedient to decide abstract questions in the absence of special cases submitted for decision, and as to clause 6 of the constitution, the Board cannot see that it requires any interpretation.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

In the matters of the following brethren who have been severally suspended by their respective Lodges and recommended for expulsion, the Board decided that the sentences be confirmed, and that they be summoned to shew cause at this meeting of Grand Lodge why they should not be expelled:

1. Bro. W. M. Codling of Doric Lodge, No. 121, Brantford.
2. Bro. A. N. Brown of Parthenon Lodge, No. 267, Chatham.

In the matter of Bro. William Henry Briggs, who has been suspended for unmasonic conduct, and recommended for expulsion by St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto, it is recommended that the sentence of suspension be confirmed, but that in view of the letter of Bro. Briggs, his expulsion is not at present recommended, in the hope that he may be enabled to make that reparation which he has promised and which may at a future time enable the withdrawal of the same.

In the matter of Bro. A. H. Brown, who has been suspended for unmasonic conduct, and recommended for expulsion by King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, Tilsonburg: the Board directed that in view of the fact that no specific charges in writing appear to have been served upon the brother, and that it does not appear whether any efforts were made to ascertain his present residence, or inform him of the proceedings being taken against him, that the matter should be referred to R. W. Bro. Chauncey Bennett, District Deputy G. M. for the Wilson District, to enquire and report to this Board at the then next sitting as to the regularity of the proceedings, and if necessary to direct that proper steps be taken for a new trial.

In the matter of the appeal of Bro. G. H. Griffin against his suspension by St. George Lodge, No. 243, referred at the meeting of the Board in July last, to R. W. Bro. Chauncey Bennett, D. D. G. M. for the Wilson District, the Board find that R. W. Bro. Bennett summoned Bro. Griffin to appear at St. George on Thursday, the 3rd February last, when he carefully investigated the matter in Bro. Griffin's presence, and found that the case against Bro. Griffin was fully made out, and that the Lodge in justice to its own interests and those of its members could not have proceeded otherwise. The Board therefore recommend that the said suspension be confirmed.

In the matter of the complaint of the W. M., the P. M. and several brethren of Springfield Lodge, No. 259, against R. W. Bro. McGlochlun, D. D. G. M. for the London District, in that he ordered the restoration of a brother who had been suspended by the Lodge, and after a notice of Appeal from such decision had been given and objection made by the W. M. to the admission of the brother into the Lodge until such appeal had been decided, in that he ordered and directed the W. M. to confer the third degree upon the brother on pain of immediately withdrawing the warrant and suspending

the Lodge, which complaint has been referred to this Board by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Board found as follows :

In this case two matters are before us,

1. A brother is under suspension in a lodge which the D. D. G. M. orders to be removed, this, although constitutional, we still feel should only be exercised subject to appeal to Grand Lodge.

2. The D. D. G. M. then ordered that the W. M. proceed to raise the same brother as a M. M. Against this the W. M. protested, when the D. D. G. M. ordered him to proceed or he would suspend the Lodge, and the W. M. on this threat raised the brother. We consider this an assumption of power entirely unwarranted by any authority, constitutional or otherwise, and that a brother proceeding to exercise such high functions as those of a D. D. G. M. with so little regard, if not with a perfect disregard, of all proper caution and consideration, is unfit to be continued in the further discharge of such office.

CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.

On the application of W. H. Fraser, Esq., Secretary, Ontario Advisory Board, for such information regarding Craft Masonry as would prove interesting to visitors at the Centennial Exhibition ; the Board instructed the Grand Secretary to transmit to Mr. Fraser, the information asked for, and to forward at the same time, specially bound copies of the Book of Constitutions and of the proceedings of Grand Lodge since its organization, and to intimate to Mr. Fraser that Grand Lodge is not in possession of any photographs or drawings suitable for such an occasion.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following resolutions were adopted :

1. That this Board in receiving the valuable compilation of R. W. Bro. Klotz of the Resolutions and Rulings of Grand Lodge, record their expression of its high value, and trust that it will merit the hearty thanks and recognition of Grand Lodge as an important addition to its records.

2. That R. W. Bro. Klotz be requested to continue his valuable services to this Board by compiling from the correspondence of all Past Grand Masters on file in the Grand Secretary's Office, the rulings and decisions given by each so far as the same may be of general or special application in the govern-

ernment of the Craft, and useful for future guidance, and to report the result of his labors at the next meeting of this Board.

3. That whereas it appears that there is a great discrepancy between the names of members appearing on the registers in the hands of the Grand Secretary, and the members named by the various lodges in making their semi-annual returns, the Grand Secretary be instructed to request each of the lodges to furnish a fair copy of its Register, as on the 27th December, 1875, and that forms for that purpose be furnished by the Grand Secretary.

4. That the form of Installation, Dedication, &c., be printed forthwith, and forwarded to the members of the Board with the view of obtaining any suggestions that they may desire to make and that on the return of such suggestions the Committee be authorized, under the approval of the Grand Master, to revise and finally print and issue the work, and that M. W. Bro Seymour be added to the Committee. The Committee now consisting of R. W. Bros. Harman, Stephens, Harding, Spry, V. W. Bro. Menet, and M. W. Bro. Seymour.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,

President of the Board.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, and

Resolved,—That the annual report of the Board be received.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, on behalf of the Board submitted and read the following semi-annual report on

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

The Board of General Purposes beg to report as follows :

That the Receipts for the half-year ending 30th June, 1876, have been as follows :

Certificates	\$1,416 00
Dues.....	3,794 00
Fees.....	810 00
Dispensations.....	308 00
Warrants.....	60 00
Constitutions.....	242 64
Interest.....	1,295 31
Sundries	56 66

Total..... \$7,982 61

All of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

The following statement exhibits the financial position of Grand Lodge as on the 30th June, 1876.

ASSETS.

Investments in Stocks.....	\$48,073 33	
Cash in the Bank of Toronto.....	44 59	
Cash in the Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	7,998 74	
		<u>\$56,116 66</u>

Representing the following amounts at credit of the various funds, viz :—

General Fund.....	\$30,357 90	
Asylum Fund.....	7,244 59	
Benevolence Fund, Investment Account.....	17,899 29	
Benevolence Fund, Current Account.....	614 88	
		<u>\$56,116 66</u>

The Board recommend payment of the following accounts, viz :—

1. Lawson & McCulloch, Printing Returns, Proxies and Certificates.....	\$ 53 00
2. Lawson & McCulloch, Gas Account for former office of Grand Secretary for three years.....	30 00
3. Lash & Co., Jewels for King Hiram Lodge, Lindsay.....	86 45
4. Murton & Reid, Coal for Grand Secretary's Office.....	19 35
5. Richard Haigh, Binding proceedings for Centennial Exhibition, &c.....	25 00
6. Northern Assurance Co., Premium on Insurance on Furniture and Regalia, \$1,750 00.....	14 00
7. R. L. Gunn, Furniture for Grand Secretary's Office.....	10 00
8. Bro. James Heron, Services as Tyler at Funeral of M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson.....	4 00
9. William Bruce, Engrossing Warrants for Lodges under Dispensation.....	13 50
10. Buntin, Gillies & Co., Stationery for Grand Secretary's Office.....	23 85
11. Ennis & Stirton, Printing Sundry Circulars.....	28 90
12. Copp, Clark & Co., Parchment and Printing Certificates..	147 03
13. Hamilton Masonic Hall Association, year's rent to 30th June, 1876.....	175 00
14. Grand Secretary, Balance of Incidental Expenses to 30th June, 1876.....	95 00
15. Grand Secretary, on Account of Incidental Expenses to 31st December, 1876.....	150 00
	<u>\$875 08</u>

In regard to the claim made by Lawson, McCulloch & Co. for heating the office of the Grand Secretary for three years, \$120, the Board refer Lawson, McCulloch & Co. to the agreement made by them and the Committee of Grand Lodge, in 1870, viz. : "That said rent be fixed at \$120 per annum, in

full of fuel, taxes, and all other charges," and recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to inform Messrs. Lawson, McCulloch & Co. that the claim, now made for the third or fourth time, cannot be entertained.

The Board recommend that the tender from the "Times Printing Company," for printing the proceedings of Grand Lodge for 1876, at the rate of \$1 17 per page for 1,000 copies, be accepted.

In regard to the application to have order No. 1325, \$20, in favor of Bro. Pichover, made payable to the order of the W. M. of Wilson Lodge, No. 113, Waterford, the Board recommend that the request be acceded to: Bro. Pichover having died during the transmission of the order, and Wilson Lodge having been put to considerable expense, owing to the protracted illness and impoverished circumstances of our deceased brother.

The Board recommend that from and after the 1st day of July, 1876, Bro. J. P. Muir, clerk, in the Grand Secretary's office, receive an addition to his salary of one hundred dollars, making the said salary eight hundred dollars per annum.

Application having been received from St. Mark's Lodge, No. 94, Port Stanley, and Springfield Lodge, No. 259, Springfield, for a remission of dues on account of the destruction of their property by fire: the Board recommend "that the amounts due by these Lodges on 30th June, 1876, (exclusive of the charges for Certificates and Constitutions furnished since 1st January last), amounting respectively to \$35.25 and \$57.72 be remitted."

In connection with the foregoing the Board desire to impress upon the Lodges the desirability of having their property fully covered by insurance, and recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to direct special attention to this subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,

President B. of G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, and

Resolved,—That the semi-annual report of the Board on Audit and Finance be received.

R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, chairman of the sub-committee on Benevolence, gave notice that on to-morrow he will apply to

Grand Lodge for the sum of \$4,000 to be taken from the General Fund, and transferred to the fund of Benevolence, current account.

R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, on behalf of the Board of General Purposes, submitted the following report on

BENEVOLENCE.

The Board have had under consideration the several applications for relief, and after due consideration made the following appropriations to be paid from the funds of Benevolence, amounting in the aggregate to \$4,000, namely :

No.	To whom granted.	Amount.	Through whom payable.
1	Toronto Board of Relief	\$250	Bro. James Spooner, Toronto
2	Hamilton "	100	" J. J. Mason, Hamilton.
3	London "	75	" H. A. Baxter, London.
4	Ottawa "	50	" C. S. Scott, Ottawa.
5	Peterboro' "	25	" Vincent Clementi, Peterboro'.
6	Wid. of Bro. Joshua Parker,	30	" James Spooner, Toronto.
7	" " William Jolly	30	" " " "
8	" " John Kestevan	30	" " " "
9	Mother " R. McGillvary	10	" " " "
10	Wid. " Wm. Owens,	25	" " " "
11	" " John Jackson,	25	" " " "
12	" " Howard Dixon,	20	" " " "
13	" " A. Goldsmith,	25	" " " "
14	" " R. S. Denoid	30	" " " "
15	" " G. R. Hunter,	25	" " " "
16	Bro. William Adams,	25	" " " "
17	" " James Murray,	20	" " " "
18	Wid. of Bro. J. F. Quill,	30	" " " "
19	Bro. Augustus T. Houel,	50	" " " "
20	Wid. of Bro. G. Snellgrove,	20	" J. J. Mason, Hamilton.
21	" " P. Patterson,	25	" " " "
22	" " Geo. Smith,	25	" " " "
23	" " Hugh Moore,	20	" " " "
24	" " Jas. Andrews,	20	" " " "
25	" " J. H. Wright,	20	" " " "
26	" " O. Skinner,	20	" " " "
27	" " W. W. Pringle,	30	" " " "
28	" " Howells,	20	" " " "
29	Bro. James McPhail,	25	" " " "
30	Wid. of Bro. F. H. Briemer,	30	" " " "
31	" " Solomon Page,	30	" " " "
32	" " J. McDowell, sr	25	" H. A. Baxter, London.
33	" " A. McIntyre,	25	" " " "
34	" " John Taylor,	20	" " " "
35	" " E. W. Griffith,	25	" " " "
36	" " Wm. Watson,	20	" " " "
37	Children " Richard Booth,	50	" " " "
38	Orphans " Alex. Craib,	30	" " " "
39	Bro. William Gammoek,	25	" " " "
40	" Edwin Lewis,	25	" " " "

41	Wid. Bro. Thos. Painter,	40	Bro. C. S. Scott, Ottawa.
42	" " Jas. Quackenbush,	25	W. M. Valley Lodge, No. 100.
43	" " Henry L. Turner,	20	Bro. R. Armour, Bowmanville.
44	" " Robt. Gartshore,	20	" Clementi, Peterboro'.
45	" " John Hilton,	30	" " "
46	" " Wm. McGregor,	25	" " "
47	" " D. Sutherland,	40	" " "
48	Bro. Joseph Newbold,	20	" " "
49	" " Edward Tighe,	20	" " "
50	Wid. of Bro. Robert Gott,	30	" C. D. Macdonnell, Peterboro'.
51	Bro. James Wilson,	30	" Daniel Spry, Toronto.
52	Wife of Bro. Chas. Chalenor,	25	" Otto Klotz, Preston.
53	Bro. Samuel Chubbuck,	50	W. M. Niagara Lodge, No. 2.
54	Wid. Bro. John Thompson,	25	" " "
55	" " Andrew Gordon,	25	" St. Francis Lodge, No. 24.
56	" " Thos. Benson,	20	Bro. W. H. Weller, Cobourg.
57	" " Alex. S. Allen,	40	W. M. Ontario Lodge, No. 26.
58	" " Amos W. Crone,	25	" Composite Lodge, No. 30.
59	" " Thos. W. Clegg,	25	" " "
60	" " J. O. L. Gibson,	40	" " "
61	" " D. McCallum,	25	" Amity " No. 32.
62	Bro. Robert Connolly,	30	" " "
63	Wid. Bro. David Potter,	30	" Trent " No. 38.
64	" " Peter J. Tindill,	25	" " "
65	Bro. Reuben Martin,	25	" King Solomon Lodge, No. 43
66	Wid. Bro. Wm. McClelland,	30	" St. James Lodge, No. 74.
67	" " Samuel Wright,	20	" King Solomon Lodge, No. 43
68	" " Neil McDougall,	30	" Faithful Bre. " " 77
69	" " Thos. A. Richards,	40	" St. John's Lodge, No. 82.
70	" " A. S. McIntyre,	40	" St. George's " " 88.
71	Bro. S. A. J. Donovan,	30	" Northern Light Lodge, No. 93
72	" James Bowman,	40	" Sharon Lodge, No. 97.
73	Wid. Bro. Wm. Hill,	30	" " "
74	" " Wm. Camp,	25	" Central " No. 110.
75	" " Michael Traxler,	25	" Morpeth " " 111.
76	Bro. J. J. Avington,	30	" Cassia " " 116.
77	" Christian Fry,	25	" Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119.
78	Wid. Bro. Robert Stewart,	30	" Doric " " 121.
79	" " J. W. Maybee,	20	" Belleville " " 123.
80	Bro. Nicolas O'Camb,	20	" " " "
81	Wid. Bro. Jos. Armfield,	30	" Rising Sun " No. 129.
82	" " Jehiel Roblin,	30	" Prince Wales " " 146.
83	" " P. N. Barrigan,	30	" Hastings " " 150.
84	Orphans of Bro. W. Littlefield,	50	" York Lodge, No. 156.
85	Wid. Bro. Andrew Milne,	20	" Burlington Lodge, No. 165.
86	" " Chester Benedict,	20	" Plattsville " " 178.
87	Bro. J. O. Illing,	40	" New Dominion " " 205.
88	Wid. Bro. Geo. W. Smith,	25	" Mountain " " 221.
89	Bro. Henry McDonagh,	35	" Prince Arthur " " 228.
90	" Joseph M. Keefer,	40	" St. George " " 243.
91	Wid. Bro. John Hortop,	30	" New Hope " " 279.
92	" " Philander Smith,	30	" Lorne " " 282.
93	" " James Miller,	40	" Blair " " 314.
94	" " Stephen Shaver,	30	" Ionic " " 328.
95	Bro. John Murray,	50	" Harris " " 216.
96	" Job Tripp,	40	" Brant " " 45.

97	Wid. Bro. C. P. Wood,	40	W. M. Hope	Lodge, No. 114.
98	" " Wm. D. G. Hill,	20	" Norfolk	" " 10.
99	" " M. H. Foley,	30	" "	" " 10.
100	" " Stephen Keays,	30	" Irving	" " 154.
101	" " William Long,	40	" Beaver	" " 83.
102	Bro. John McPherson,	25	" Wellington	" " 46.
103	Wid. Bro. Joseph Fisher,	30	" Parthenon	" " 267.
104	Stratford Board of Relief,	30	Bro. C. L. T. Campbell,	Stratford.
105	St. David's Lodge, No. 302.	30	W. M. St. David's Lodge,	No. 302.
106	Kingston Board of Relief,	30	Bro. L. Clements,	Kingston.
107	Daughters of John V. Noel,	40	" "	" "
108	Miss Annie Price,	25	" "	" "
109	Wid. Louisa Judd,	40	" "	" "
110	" Bro. Benj. C. Davy,	30	" "	" "
111	" " Jas. W. J. Andrews,	20	" "	" "
112	" " Thomas Graham,	25	" "	" "
113	" " Benjamin Stacey,	30	" "	" "
114	" " Wm. McCadden,	20	" "	" "
115	" " John M. Horsey,	20	" "	" "
116	" " Wm. Fenton,	20	W. M. St. Paul Lodge,	No. 107.
117	" " Robert Meikle,	30	" Madawaska	" " 196.
118	" " Thomas Mackie,	25	" "	" " "
119	Bro. William McNaughton,	20	" "	" " "
120	Wid. Bro. James J. Carter,	25	" Prince Edward Lodge,	No. 18.
121	" " William Cockel,	25	" "	" " "
122	" " William Sweeny,	25	" "	" " "
123	Bro. Charles McCaffery,	25	" Victoria	" No. 299.
124	Wid. Bro. Cyrus Riggs,	25	" Lorne	" " 282.
125	Bro. Daniel Graves,	50	" Albion Lodge,	No. 80.
126	Wid. Bro. John Bracken,	20	" "	" " "
127	Children of Bro. Thos. Todd,	20	" "	" " "
128	Bro. William McArthur,	20	" Old Light Lodge,	No. 184.
129	Wid. Bro. James Keys,	25	R. W. Bro. P. J. Brown,	

\$4,000

The Board have also had before them the following applications: Mrs. Caroline MacFarland, Mrs. Harriet White Morgan, Mrs. LeClair, and Mrs. Thresa McMullen, and decline to recommend any grant from the Benevolent Fund of Grand Lodge for the above mentioned, for the following reasons:

The application of Mrs. MacFarland lacks the recommendation of any lodge, or the Local Board of Relief of the town in which she resides.

As regards the application of Mrs. LeClair, the Board refer to the reasons already set forth in the report of the annual meeting, held at Cobourg in February last, and see no reason to deviate from the decision then arrived at in her case.

In the case of Mrs. Morgan, the Board have been informed that the late brother Morgan was insured in the London

Masonic Mutual Benefit Association, and that his family received, at his death, as the result of such insurance over two thousand dollars.

Our late brother McMullen, the Board are informed, was also insured in the same institution as our late brother Morgan, and for a like sum, and that he left at his decease real and personal property (including the above mentioned insurance), amounting to about six thousand dollars, unincumbered.

Regarding the communication from the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, asking information respecting the working of Masonic Benevolent Institutions, the Board recommend that the same be referred to R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz to be answered by him at his leisure.

The following Returns have been received from the Local Boards of Relief up to the 30th of June, 1876.

TORONTO BOARD OF RELIEF.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand from last return.....	\$710 00
Direct grant from Grand Lodge.....	150 00
Special grants from Grand Lodge to individual applicants.....	225 00
Regular grants from four City Lodges.....	624 00
Special " " two " "	50 00
" " " one Chapter.....	50 00
" " " Preceptory.....	25 00
Returned Loan.....	100 00
Interest.....	15 00
	<hr/>
	\$1850 00

EXPENDITURE.

Eleven Pensioners.....	\$225 00
Eight City Members.....	145 00
One hundred and seven cases of Transient Relief.....	695 25
Medical attendance.....	3 00
Loans.....	43 00
Incidentals.....	19 75
	<hr/>
	1157 00
Balance on hand.....	693 00
	<hr/>
	\$1850 00

HAMILTON BOARD OF RELIEF.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand from last return.....	\$303 93
Direct grant from Grand Lodge.....	75 00
Special " " " "	150 00
Church collection on St. John's day.....	87 90
	<hr/>
	\$616 83

EXPENDITURE.

Pensioners.....	\$150 00
General cases of Relief.....	234 56
	<hr/>
	384 56
Balance on hand.....	232 27
	<hr/>
	\$616 83

LONDON BOARD OF RELIEF.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand from last return	\$ 93 53
Direct grant from Grand Lodge.....	75 00
Regular grants from seven city Lodges.....	166 00
	<hr/>
	\$334 53

EXPENDITURE.

Special aid to distressed Brethren and their families.....	\$171 00
Relief to Transient Brethren.....	31 00
Funeral Expenses.....	31 50
	<hr/>
	233 50
Balance on hand.....	101 03
	<hr/>
	\$334 53

OTTAWA BOARD OF RELIEF.

RECEIPTS.

Regular grants from five City Lodges.....	\$ 82 50
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EXPENDITURE.

Eight Cases of Relief.....	\$ 75 00
Balance on hand.....	7 50
	<hr/>
	\$82 50

KINGSTON BOARD OF RELIEF.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand from last return.....	\$ 6 92
Direct grant from Grand Lodge.....	30 00
Grant from one City Lodge.....	35 50
	<hr/>
	\$72 42

EXPENDITURE.

Six Cases of Relief.....	\$ 60 00
Balance on hand.....	12 42
	<hr/>
	\$72 42

Your Board find that while in the city of Toronto four Lodges contributed \$624, two Lodges \$50, one Chapter \$50, and one Preceptory \$25; in the city of London seven Lodges contributed \$166; in the city of Ottawa five Lodges \$82.50; and in the city of Kingston one Lodge \$35.50, by the return for the city of Hamilton no money appears to have been paid in for benevolent purposes by the Lodges of that city.

The Board recommend that in future all grants to Local Boards of Relief be made only in accordance with the principle adopted by the Board of General Purposes in the Resolution passed at the city of Toronto, 4th Feb'y, 1873, namely:

Resolved.—That hereafter no grant be made to any Local Board of Relief unless such Local Board makes a regular return in detail to the Board of General Purposes of the amounts received and expended for Relief during the preceding six months, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Chairman of each Local Board of Relief.

The Board desire to again direct the attention of parties who solicit aid on behalf of brethren or their relatives, to the several resolutions of Grand Lodge relating to that subject, and which are published in the extracts of Resolutions of Grand Lodge, page 9, under "Applications for Benevolence," by so doing and by complying with the requirements therein expressed, it will be the safest guarantee that the funds of benevolence will be distributed upon the principles of justice and equity, and that all applications will receive due consideration.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,

President B. of G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved.—That the report of the Board on Benevolence be received.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, on behalf of the Board, submitted and read the following report on the

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

The Board have had laid before them and have considered the Reports from the following Districts:—St. Clair, Wilson, Huron, Hamilton, Niagara, Toronto, Ontario, Prince Edward, Ottawa, London, Wellington and St. Lawrence.

It is much to be regretted that the District Deputy Grand Masters did not send in their Reports within the time specified by the Constitution.

The Board report with pleasure that the progress of Masonry in the different Districts has been on the whole highly satisfactory, and that the District Deputy Grand Masters have exerted themselves in carrying on the many duties entrusted to them.

Lodges of Instruction have been held in the Ontario, Wilson, and St. Lawrence Districts, and with highly satisfactory results. It is hoped that during the ensuing year, Lodges of Instruction under the guidance of zealous and competent Brethren, will be held in every District.

In nearly all the reports, mention is made of dispensations being granted for the purpose of laying the corner stones of edifices devoted to either Masonic or Religious purposes, showing that the order is advancing in public estimation, and is obtaining a well deserved popularity. It is pleasing to note that several dispensations have been granted by District Deputy Grand Masters for the brethren to appear in Masonic clothing for the purpose of attending Divine Service on the Festival days of our patron Saints.

In some of the reports allusion has been made to the so-called "London Difficulty," but they show that the recusant Masons receive no encouragement, and that the Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Canada in spite of blandishments showered on them, remain firm in their allegiance. This matter has been so fully considered by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and by the Special Committee appointed by him, that it is unnecessary to make further allusion thereto.

The craft has sustained a loss in the death of V. W. Bro. W. H. Supple, Past G. S. D., and your Board would recommend that a memorial page recording the sad event be inserted in the *addenda* to the proceedings of Grand Lodge.

The D. D. G. M. for the London District recommends that the dues of Ionic Lodge, No. 328, should be remitted on account of loss sustained by fire, but your Board regret, as the G. M. in his address to the Grand Lodge in 1874, strongly advised that every Lodge should insure, and so protect itself against loss, that the Lodge had not availed itself of the G. M's. advice.

In conclusion, it is satisfactory to be able to report that the decisions of the D. D. G. M's. appear generally to have given satisfaction, only one appeal therefrom having been brought under the notice either of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,

President B. of G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. A. Henderson, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on the Condition of Masonry be received.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, on behalf of the trustees, presented and read the following report on the

MASONIC ASYLUM TRUST.

The trustees of the Masonic Asylum Trust feeling, albeit with regret, that the time for taking action in the matter of this cherished object must await the pleasure of the Grand Lodge, and that such time may have still to be deferred, and having ascertained that it is the desire of the Grand Lodge expressed through the Board of General Purposes, that the funds should henceforth be managed (but as a distinct trust), under the direct control of the Grand Lodge, can have no possible wish but to meet such desire.

They, therefore, now finally make up the account of the Trust, since their last report. See proceedings, 1875, page 187, as follows :

Total, per last report, as above.....	\$6,828 99
Add Dividends Dominion Stock, \$372 : Bank Interest, \$43.60..	415 60
	<hr/>
	\$7,244 59
Consisting of Dominion Stock.....	\$7,200 00
Cash in Bank of Toronto.....	44 59
	<hr/>
	\$7,244 59

The Trustees in resigning their trust will look back with pleasure, although it may not be unmixed with disappointment, to the part they have taken in nursing this fund, and otherwise endeavoring to advance a project which they trust may in good time be accomplished, and based on the experience of similar efforts in other places, yet stand forth as a kindly and sympathetic landmark of Canadian Freemasonry.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed.)

KIVAS TULLY,

Chairman.

SAMUEL B. HARMAN.

VINCENT CLEMENTI.

JAMES BAIN.

J. K. KERR.

Toronto, 7th July, 1876.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. James Bain, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Masonic Asylum Trust be received.

In accordance with notice given at the last annual communication, it was moved by V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, seconded by R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry,

That Article 7, "of Fees," in the Book of Constitution, be amended by striking out all after the words "jurisdiction of a Lodge," and inserting therefor the words "Two Dollars."

In amendment it was moved by V. W. Bro. John Ormiston, seconded by W. Bro. G. J. Waugh,

That the words "Twenty Dollars," be inserted in the motion of V. W. Bro. Menet, in place of "Two Dollars."

The Grand Master ruled that the amendment was not in order, on the ground that it involved a change of the Constitution in a direction of which no notice of motion had been given.

A vote was then taken on V. W. Bro. Menet's motion, and declared in the negative.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, seconded by M. W. Bro. Seymour, and

Resolved,—That Article 1, "of Constituting a New Lodge," be amended by inserting next after the words "by the nearest Lodge," the words following: "and in case of there being more than two Lodges within the jurisdiction, it shall require the recommendation of not less than one-half of the said Lodges."

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. B. Bickell, seconded by V. W. Bro. John Ormiston, and

Resolved,—That the following motion, of which notice had been given by V. W. Bro. William Forbes at the last annual communication, be allowed to stand over as a notice for the next annual communication, namely, "That the expenses of District Deputy Grand Masters be paid "by this Grand Lodge, by allowing a certain amount for each Lodge."

W. Bro. J. E. Gould, of Zeredatha Lodge, 220, Uxbridge, gave notice that on to-morrow he would move that the Township of Uxbridge, in the County of Ontario, be Masonically included in the Toronto District.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS.

R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, on behalf of the commissioners appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master to enquire and take evidence on the appeal of brother John H. Ley, of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, against his suspension, and to enquire into all matters relating to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, presented and read the following report :

J. K. Kerr, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER.—Your Commission, appointed 30th May last—1st. To enquire and take evidence on the appeal of Bro. J. H. Ley, of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, against his suspension for alleged sympathy and communication with brethren who had formed the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and 2nd—To enquire into all matters respecting the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, or any irregular or clandestine meetings of Masons in London or elsewhere, beg leave to report,

1st. That they caused the said Bro. John H. Ley to be duly and properly notified to attend a meeting of said Commission, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of June last, at half-past two o'clock, afternoon, at the Masonic Hall, Richmond Street, London, Ontario.

2nd. That your Commission attended at the said time and place, at which meeting brother Ley attended. The Committee having properly organized, the letters hereto annexed, and numbered 1, 2 and 3, were produced and read.

Bro. John H. Ley made and signed the statement also appended, and R. W. Bro. Mason and Bro. Brock were examined, and their evidence is also appended and numbered 4.

Your Commission, after reading said letters and considering the statement and evidence, find that brother Ley was in sympathy and communication with the members of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and attended a meeting of clandestine Masons, and further find that since the date of his suspension, he has caused a letter to be written to the M. W. the Grand Master by brother George Beecher, a suspended Mason and an officer of the so-called Grand Lodge. Said letter is appended and marked No. 1.

Letters numbered 2 and 3, also appended, he caused to be written to the M. W. the Grand Master, by his book-keeper, a man who was not a Mason, each of said three letters being couched in improper language.

We further find that the said brother, John H. Ley, only values his Masonic connection in so far as it is likely to affect his business. From the whole evidence we find that he was properly suspended and recommend him for further discipline.

A letter since received by the Grand Secretary and forwarded to your Commission, is appended and numbered 5.

Your Commission then proceeded to make enquiry into matters respecting the meeting of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and as to what members of the Craft in this jurisdiction had participated therein.

We find that on the 10th day of February, 1876, R. W. Bro. F. Westlake, of St. George's Lodge, No. 42 ; W. Bro. J. R. Peel, of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64 : and Bros. W. H. Street, of Erie Lodge, No. 149 ; J. F. Latimer, of St. Mark's Lodge, No. 94 ; and W. W. Fitzgerald, of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, signed a declaration of incorporation of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, a certified copy of which is hereto annexed, numbered 6, and also appear to have organized the said so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, with the intention and for the purpose of subverting the authority of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

We find that on the 19th day of February, 1876, they were suspended for said offence, a copy of which suspension is annexed and numbered 7. With reference to Bros. Westlake and Fitzgerald, we append a letter written by Bro. Fitzgerald to the Worshipful Master of Springfield Lodge, No. 259, and numbered 8. We find they were properly suspended, and recommend them for further discipline.

With reference to Bro. W. D. McGloghlon, late D. D. G. M. of London District. of Albion Lodge, No. 80, we find he was suspended on the 22nd February, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master, a copy of which is hereto annexed and numbered 9. We produce a letter of R. W. Bro. Birrell, dated 19th February, 1876, and numbered 10, evidencing the fact that he is an officer of the so-called Grand Lodge with the rank of Past Grand Master, and we also produce a letter dated 3rd April, 1876, from R. W. Bro. McGloghlon, to the W. M. of Albion Lodge, No. 80, and numbered 11. We find he was properly suspended, and recommend him for further discipline.

With reference to Bro. Conover, of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, suspended 22nd February, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master, a copy of which edict is annexed and numbered 9. We produce circular, 23rd February, 1876, to the members of his lodge, appended and numbered 13. On the

evidence of R. W. Bro. Birrell, we find he is D. D. G. M. of London District for the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and find that he has been properly suspended and recommend him for further discipline.

With reference to Bro. S. P. Groat, of Durham Lodge, No. 66, suspended 22nd February, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master, a copy of which edict is appended and marked No. 9. We produce a circular signed by him as Secretary, calling a meeting of Eden Lodge, U. D., in the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, said circular marked No. 14. We find he has been properly suspended and recommend him for further discipline.

With reference to Bros. P. Grant, of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, and W. T. Edge, of Spartan Lodge, No. 176, suspended 3rd March, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. We produce a printed list of the officers of Alpha Lodge, No. 1, under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, in which list the name of P. Grant appears as W. M.—list appended and numbered 15, also a letter of Bro. Birrell, dated 2nd March, 1876, stating that the said Bro. Edge, had visited frequently Eden Lodge, U. D. under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and his name also appears on the list of officers of the so called Grand Lodge of Ontario, said list appended and numbered 17. We find that these brethren have been properly suspended and recommend them for further discipline.

With regard to Bro. D. M. Bowman, of St. John's Lodge, No. 209 *a*, suspended 19th February, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master, a copy of which edict is appended and marked 18. His name appears among the Grand Officers of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, produced and numbered 17. We find he has been properly suspended and recommend him for further discipline.

With reference to Bros. George Beecher, E. K. Slater, and J. W. Jones, members of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, suspended 8th March, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. We produce printed list of officers of Alpha Lodge, No. 1, under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, numbered 15, in which their names appear as officers. We find they have been properly suspended and recommend them for further discipline.

With reference to Bros. G. Wrigley, of St. John's Lodge, No. 20 ; C. W. Graham, and George Gray, formerly of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, suspended 9th March, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. We find their names appear on the printed list of the officers of Alpha Lodge, under the

so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, appended and numbered 15. Bro. Wrigley's name also appears in the Grand Lodge list of the aforesaid so-called Grand Lodge as Grand Organist. Said list appended and numbered 17. We find they have been properly suspended and recommend them for further discipline.

With reference to Bro. G. Jackson, late of St. John's Lodge, No. 20, suspended 10th March, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. His name appears as a Grand Officer in the printed list of officers, of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, said list numbered 17. We find he has been properly suspended and recommend him for further discipline.

With reference to Bro. A. A. Boston, of Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171, suspended by the M. W. the Grand Master, by edict, a copy of which is appended and numbered 18. On the evidence of Bro. Hood, tyler of the lodges in London, we find that he is a member of Alpha Lodge, under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. We find he has been properly suspended and recommend him for further discipline.

With reference to Bro. W. E. Smith, of St. David's Lodge, No. 302, suspended 16th May, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. On evidence of Bro. Thomson, of St. Thomas, we find he is Worshipful Master of Delta Lodge, St. Thomas, under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. Letter appended No. 22. We find that he has been properly suspended and recommend him for further discipline.

With reference to Bros. G. W. H. Davis, of Springfield Lodge, No. 259; D. I. McCosh, J. D. McCosh, both of Irving Lodge, No. 154; Thomas Hossack, of St. John's Lodge, No. 68; S. C. Hersey, of King Hiram Lodge, No. 37; and E. Mara, of St. James Lodge, No. 73, suspended 30th May, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. We produce letter of Bro. J. Sutton, Acting D. D. G. M. of London District, said letter appended and marked 23; also a letter dated 6th July, 1876, said letter appended and numbered 24. We find they have been properly suspended and recommend them for further discipline.

With reference to Bro. Cohen, of Antiquity Lodge, Montreal, suspended 30th May, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. We find by evidence of the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto District, that interviews took place between him and Bro. Cohen, and that the brother was duly warned and finally deliberately joined the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, taking office in one of the subordinate lodges, and in the so-called Grand Lodge he holds the office of D. G. M.

Letters 19, 20, and 21, are appended. We find that he has been properly suspended and recommend him for further discipline.

With reference to Bros. M. Solomon of Wilson Lodge, No. 86, and Bro. Ed. Meek, not affiliated, suspended 30th May, 1876, by the M. W. Bro. Grand Master, by edict. We produce circular of the D. D. G. M. of Toronto District, giving a list of officers of Lodge of Good Intent, under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, in which their names appear as officers. We find they have been properly suspended and recommend them for further discipline.

With reference to Bros. J. J. Hall and Joseph Iredale, both of St. James Lodge, No. 73, suspended 13th June, 1876, by edict of the M. W. Grand Master. We produce letter of W. Bro. A. Carman, W. M. of St. James Lodge, No. 73, and numbered 25; also memo. of Bro. T. B. Bennett, dated 14th June, 1876, and numbered 26; also a letter of Bro. Iredale's, dated 8th July, 1876, and numbered 27. We find they have been properly suspended and recommend them for further discipline.

With reference to Bros. T. H. McConnell of London and O. J. Bridle, an initiate of Eden Lodge, late U. D., suspended 26th June, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. We produce list of officers of Alpha Lodge, under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, in which they appear as officers of that Lodge; list numbered 15. We find they have been properly suspended and recommend them for further discipline.

With reference to Bros. M. A. Wright of Bothwell Lodge, No. 179, Wallace Oakes of Spartan Lodge, No. 176, and Daniel Turner, T. R. Barton, J. B. Sabine, J. Hagarty, T. S. Minton, Peter Smith and G. T. Hiscox, the latter seven, initiates of Eden Lodge, late U. D., suspended 26th June, 1876, by edict of the M. W. Grand Master. Bro. M. A. Wright is Grand Chaplain of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, as per list of officers appended and numbered 17. In reference to Bro. Wallace Oakes we produce letter dated 12th June, 1876, to Bro. Geo. Collis, and numbered 28, showing that he is a member of Delta Lodge under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, his name also appears on appended list, No. 17, as Grand Supt. of Works. Bro. Birrell gives evidence that the remaining brethren, viz., Turner, Barton, Sabine, Hagarty, Minton, Smith and Hiscox are members of Eden Lodge under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. Bros. Turner, Barton and Sabine are officers of this said so-called Grand Lodge as per list numbered 17. We find these brethren

ren have been properly suspended and recommend them for further discipline.

- In reference to Bro. Thos. Anderson, suspended 26th June, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. We produce letter to the M. W. the Grand Master, 7th July, 1876, and numbered 31, in which letter Bro. Anderson attempts to justify his conduct. We find he has been properly suspended and recomend him for further discipline.

In reference to Bro. Colamore, suspended 26th June, 1876, by edict of the M. W. the Grand Master. We produce letters from Bro. Colamore, dated 4th July, to the Grand Secretary, and the president of the B. of G. P., and in which letters he explains his conduct and denies that he is connected in any way with the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, or any other illegal body of Masons; and states that the placing of his name as Grand Chaplain, was done entirely without his knowledge or consent, but admits that he allowed his name to be mentioned in connection with a proposition for membership in Alpha Lodge, under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. We find he was properly suspended, but recommend him to your favorable consideration upon giving satisfactory assurance of loyalty to the Grand Lodge.

We find that no Lodge in this or any other jurisdiction has joined the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario.

Dated at Ottawa this 12th day of July, A. D. 1876.

(Signed) JOHN E. HARDING,
Chairman.
THOS. C. MACNABB.
CHAUNCEY BENNETT.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, and

Resolved,—That the foregoing report be received and referred to the Board of General Purposes for consideration.

NOTICE RESPECTING ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, gave notice that at the evening session he would move that the election of officers be the first order of business to-morrow morning.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 8 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 12th July, A. D. 1876.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 8.30 o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. James K. Kerr, Grand Master,

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members, and Representatives.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, on behalf of the Board presented the following report on

JURISPRUDENCE, CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS.

The Board beg leave to submit the following report on questions submitted for consideration.

1. A brother is entitled to a certificate immediately on being registered, and it cannot be refused him even if he be subsequently suspended.—[*See Sec. 1 of certificates.*]

2. When a member resigns or afterwards, he is entitled to a certificate of his standing. Should he be indebted to the Lodge the certificate can state the fact.—[*See Sec. 6 of members and their duty.*]

3. The fee for dispensation to initiate a candidate without the jurisdiction of the Lodge is payable where a candidate resides nearer another Lodge, and should be paid by the candidate in whose favor the dispensation is granted, and the candidate cannot be initiated in any but the nearest Lodge without a dispensation.—[*See fees and Sec. 3 of proposing members as amended in 1871.*]

4. We have examined the "Masonic Harp," the book referred to in Bro. Rawling's complaint, and find nothing objectionable in it, and recommend that the Grand Secretary return the same to Brant Lodge.

5. In 1870 there was a ruling of Grand Lodge, that the restoration of a suspended member restores him to all his privileges as a Mason, including membership in the Lodge which suspended him.—[*See Proceedings, 1870, page 462.*]

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,

President B. of G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Jurisprudence, Constitutions and Regulations, be received.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following report on

WARRANTS.

The Board of General Purposes beg to report, that they have thoroughly examined the Minute Books and papers in connection with the various Lodges now working under dispensation as named below, and recommend that Warrants be granted to them, viz :

Prince Arthur Lodge.....	Flesherton.
“ “ “	Arthur.
Langton “	Langton.
Highgate “	Highgate.
Myrtle “	Port Robinson.
Dufferin “	Wellandport.
Orient “	Don Mount.
St. John's “	Pittsburgh.
Bruce “	Tiverton.
Hiram “	Wolfe Island.
Georgina “	Sutton.
Merrill “	Dorchester.
Nilestown “	Nilestown.
Occident “	Toronto.
Mercer “	Fergus.
Georgian “	Penetanguishene.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,

President of B. of G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Warrants be received and adopted.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following report on the

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The Board feel assured but one feeling will pervade Grand Lodge with regard to the address of the M. W. the Grand Master—that of congratulation to himself, and satisfaction on the part of the craft, at the able, clear and lucid manner, in which he has dealt with the important subjects it embraces, and the guidance and assistance it will prove to Grand Lodge in dealing practically with them.

It would be entirely out of place to add to the well chosen expressions in which he has alluded to the loss Grand Lodge has sustained, in the removal by the hand of death, at a com-

paratively early age, of M. W. Bro. P. G. M. Bernard, whose Masonic record he so well sums up in the words that "from the time the Grand Lodge was formed to the day of his death, he took a lively interest in its affairs and was one of the most active and useful counsellors at the Board of General Purposes ; as well as at our annual Communications," and whose personal, social and public record, although, necessarily sketched with brevity, portray the life of an honored citizen whose worth was proved by his being chosen to fill the highest office his fellow citizens could confer in the first city of Canada, while his excellent and endearing social qualities had gained him a place in general estimation which will be long, gratefully, and affectionately remembered. The Craft of the City of Montreal may be assured of the deep sympathy of the Grand Lodge of Canada in their Masonic bereavement, and hereby appoint the M. W. the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the P. G. Masters, namely, M. W. Bros. Harington, Simpson, Stevenson, Seymour, and White, special mourners to attend the funeral of the late distinguished and lamented brother, joined by as many members of the Grand Lodge as may be able to attend. Bro. Grand Secretary will also insert a fitting memorial page to his memory among the records of Brethren passed "to rest."

The increase on the roll of Lodges of this Grand Lodge will be more immediately noticed in the recommendation from the Board of General Purposes as to the issue of Warrants, but it is most gratifying to note the remarks of the Grand Master as to the care exhibited that such increase has been based on information that the essentials for prosperous lodges and creditable material were known to exist. Nor is it less gratifying to note the unusually numerous occasions when the aid of the Craft has been sought in laying the foundations of buildings dedicated to the honor of the G. A. O. T. U. as affording the best evidence "of the high esteem in which Freemasonry is held by the Community of Canada."

The full and exhaustive statement of facts presented to Grand Lodge with regard to the difficulties connected with "Eden Lodge," London, show conclusively that every due and kindly effort was made by the Grand Master to keep the Brethren who desired its formation within constitutional bounds, and it is hard to conceive a reason, short of its being the direct prelude to rebellion, for their rejection of his courteous and untiring efforts in that behalf. That the Grand Master was forced to proceed to the constitutional course of

action consequent on a direct defiance of authority, is manifest on the perusal of his lucid statement, fully illustrating his own words at the conclusion of his address that while "he sought to govern with kindness and persuasion, he did not hesitate to "exercise the powers attached to his high office when the "necessity for imperative measures rose." Your committee have only to recommend Grand Lodge to express by an unqualified endorsement of his action, followed by expulsion, their entire approval of the same.

The facts connected with the extraordinary creation, if creation it can be termed, of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and the complete exposure and refutation, clause by clause, of the attempt at justification by attacking our time-honored and beloved Grand Lodge, have also been set out in the address with so masterly a grasp of facts and circumstances, that your Committee have nothing to supplement, and his prompt and constitutional procedure in at once suspending the adherents of such a movement from the rights, benefits and privileges of Freemasonry, deserves not only the concurrence but the hearty thanks of Grand Lodge. It may be said the latter are unnecessary, that the recognition of the performance of duty is its sufficient reward, but placed as the Grand Master has been in the position of having to deal, during the recess of Grand Lodge, with an attempt so unexpectedly made to create disunion, and the failure of which (for what better can it be termed), may be traced as much to his prompt action, as to its internal weakness, Grand Lodge can and should record an expression of their appreciation, as well as their adoption and extension, of his constitutional course in defence of her privileges.

The Board have designedly left to the last reference to the continued and increasing exchange of Representatives with other Grand Bodies which is so pleasingly alluded to in the address. Strengthened in her course of duty by these gratifying marks of brotherhood, supported by a world extended recognition, and upholding as she has ever upheld the dignity of her mission, may the Grand Lodge of Canada ever pursue that mission in its true spirit, and await calmly the time, when, guided by the power of the great Author of Peace, this casual disunion may give place to unity, and her proceedings be once more conducted in harmony and peace.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,
President B. of G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on the Grand Master's address be received and adopted.

R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, gave notice that on to-morrow he would move that the travelling expenses of the committee appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master to investigate the secession movement relating to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, be paid out of the general funds of Grand Lodge, on the certificate of the President of the Board.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, and

Resolved,—That the annual report of the Board of General Purposes be adopted.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz.

That the semi-annual report of the Board on Audit and Finance be adopted.

In amendment, it was moved by R. W. Bro. J. B. Bickell, seconded by W. Bro. W. J. Murray,

That that part of the Report of the Board on Audit and Finance, relating to the increase of the salary of the clerk in the Grand Secretary's office be struck out, and that the report so amended be adopted.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment, it was declared *lost*.

The original motion on a vote being taken, was declared *carried*.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Benevolence be adopted.

R. W. Bro. D. Curtis, gave notice that on to-morrow he would move that the next annual Communication of Grand Lodge be held at Brantford.

R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson, gave notice that on to-morrow he would move that the next annual Communication of Grand Lodge be held at Belleville.

R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, gave notice that on to-morrow he would move that the next annual Communication of Grand Lodge be held at St. Catharines.

R. W. Bro. J. J. Gemmill, gave notice that on to-morrow he would move that the next annual Communication of Grand Lodge be held at Toronto.

In accordance with notice given at the last annual Communication.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. the Rev. V. Clementi, seconded by R. W. Bro. E. Peplow, jr.,

That Article 17, "of the Grand Lodge in the Book of Constitution," be amended by striking out the words "at which the place of holding the next Communication shall be decided," and inserting in place thereof the words "in the City of Toronto."

The resolution was declared *lost*.

In the absence, and at the request, of R. W. Bro. R. P. Stephens, it was moved by V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, seconded by W. Bro. J. E. Gould,

That Article 10 "of the regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge during the time of business," be amended by inserting the following clause between the words "before Grand Lodge" and "and no alteration," namely:—"or unless notice of motion of such amendment be given in writing to the Grand Secretary, at least two months before the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and such notice be inserted in the Summons for such Annual Communication."

The resolution was declared *lost*.

R. W. Bro. John Nettleton, gave notice that on to-morrow he would move, that the notices of motions to be brought up in Grand Lodge be sent to each Lodge by the Grand Secretary, at the same time as the annual notice of the meeting of Grand Lodge.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, seconded by V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, and

Resolved,—That it is the wish of Grand Lodge that the election of officers be the first order of business for to-morrow, after the reception of the Reports of the Board of General Purposes.

The following brethren presented their credentials as the representatives of the Grand Lodges named, which were accepted, and the representatives were saluted with the usual honors.

M. W. Bro.	J. K. Kerr,	for the Grand Lodge of	Missouri.
R. "	W. H. Weller,	" "	Prince Ed. Island.
" "	Daniel Spry,	" "	Kentucky.
" "	David McLellan,	" "	Illinois.
" "	J. E. Harding,	" "	West Virginia.
" "	C. D. Macdonnell,	" "	Georgia.
" "	J. J. Mason,	" "	Iowa.
" "	J. J. Mason,	" "	Florida.
" "	Wm. Brydon,	" "	Virginia.

R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following report on

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Board of General Purposes beg leave to report that seventeen cases have been placed before them, which they have considered, and submit thereon the following conclusions and recommendations.

1. *In the matter of*
 BRO. C. C. BAIRD,
 and
 ACACIA LODGE, NO. 61. } Bro. C. C. Baird, was in 1873 suspended by Acacia Lodge, for unmasonic conduct. He has since conducted himself in a proper and becoming manner, and has applied to the Lodge for restoration. The Lodge by a unanimous ballot decided in favor of granting his request.

The Board therefore recommend that the suspension of Bro. C. C. Baird be removed, and that he be restored to good standing as requested by the Lodge.

2. *In the matter of*
 BRO. C. J. ELLIS,
 and
 NEW HOPE LODGE NO. 279. } Bro. C. J. Ellis, was in 1874, suspended by New Hope Lodge for unmasonic conduct. He has applied to the Lodge for restoration, and the Lodge by a vote of more than two-thirds decided in favor of granting his request.

The Board therefore recommend that the suspension of Bro. C. J. Ellis be removed, and that he be restored to good standing as requested by the Lodge.

3. *In the matter of*
 BRO. HY. DRUMMOND,
 and
 EUREKA LODGE, NO. 248. } Bro. Henry Drummond, was suspended in 1875 by R. W. Bro. J. W. Pickup. D. D. G. M. for the Ottawa District. The Lodge have requested his restoration, and the Board recommend that the suspension of Bro. Henry

Drummond be removed and that he be restored to good standing as requested by the Lodge.

4. BRO. MICHAEL EACRETT, } The charge in this case is
vs. } larceny. A trial appears to
BRO. WM. SMALACOMB. } have been held in Lebanon
Forest Lodge, No. 133, and the
accused found guilty. The Lodge have suspended him and
recommended that he be expelled by Grand Lodge, but the
papers before the Board are not sufficient to enable them to
take any action.

The Board therefore recommend that this case be referred to the D. D. G. M. of the Huron District, to investigate and report at the next meeting of the Board.

5. BRO. JAMES JACKSON, } This is an appeal from the
vs. } decision of Evergreen Lodge, No.
EVERGREEN LODGE, No. 209 } 209, by which Bro. James Jack-
and unmasonic conduct. } son was suspended for immoral

Having heard the appellant and the representative of the Lodge, the Board have decided to recommend that this case should be referred to the D. D. G. M. for the Ottawa District, with authority to hear and determine, and report to the next meeting of the Board.

6. BRO. THOS. RAWLINGS, } In April, 1876, Bro. Thos.
vs. } Rawlings and another were
DORIC LODGE, NO. 121. } appointed by Doric Lodge, No.
121, as special auditors to examine fully into the financial
affairs of the Lodge since 1871.

Bro. Rawlings performed his duty and prepared a report ; on presentation of which, the Lodge by resolutions, ordered that the report should not be received or read and that it should be thrown out. Bro. Rawlings complains of this action of Doric Lodge.

The Board are of opinion that the matter in question is one solely within the jurisdiction of the Lodge, but that the Lodge should have had sufficient courtesy towards an officer of their own appointment, not to have refused to hear his report.

7. SPRINGFIELD LODGE, No. 259; } This is an appeal by
vs. } Springfield Lodge, No. 295,
BRO. G. W. H. Davis. } against the action of the
former D. D. G. M. for the

11. KING HIRAM LODGE, No. 43, } Complaint by the
 AND } Lodges in Woodstock
 OXFORD LODGE, No. 76, } against Stevenson Lodge,
 vs. } for not refunding certain
 STEVENSON LODGE, No. 218. } moneys expended by the
 the relief of a member of Stevenson Lodge who met with an }
 accident in Woodstock in December, 1874. }
 the relief of a member of Stevenson Lodge who met with an
 accident in Woodstock in December, 1874.

The Board, while acknowledging the very creditable conduct of the Lodges in Woodstock, cannot admit that Lodges have a right to be recouped in cases of this kind.

And they recommend that this matter be referred to the Toronto Central Board of Relief for consideration.

12. PARTHENON LODGE, No. 267, } On the charge of em-
 vs. } bezzlement, Bro. Browne
 BRO. A. W. BROWNE. } was tried by the Lodge,
 suspended, and recommended for expulsion.

He has been summoned to attend at this meeting to show cause why he should not be expelled, and in answer to this summons he states that he is unable to come as he cannot afford it.

He also shows sufficient cause, in the opinion of the Board, to warrant a delay in inflicting so severe a penalty as expulsion.

The Board, therefore, recommend that this matter be referred to the D. D. G. M. of the St. Clair District, to investigate the circumstances and report thereon at the next meeting of the Board.

13. DOMINION LODGE, No. 213, } This is an appeal from
 vs. } a suspension by Domin-
 BRO. WM. ATKINSON. } ion Lodge. Bro. Wm.
 Atkinson was charged with unmasonic conduct comprised in eight specifications. On the trial he was found guilty on all the charges except the seventh, and excluded from membership in the Lodge. The principal charges are for revealing the secrets improperly, and for violating the secrecy of the ballot.

Neither party appears before the Board, and the case must consequently be decided upon the papers presented.

Upon reading and considering the charges, the evidence, the sentence, and the appeal and the grounds stated therein, the Board are of opinion that the charges were sustained by the evidence and that the grounds of appeal are not sufficient to reverse the sentence,

The Board recommend that the appeal of Bro. Wm. Atkinson be dismissed.

14. ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 284, } Bro. Wm. Ferguson has
vs. } been suspended by St.
BRO. WM. FERGUSON. } John's Lodge, No. 284,
for gross and immoral conduct, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion.

The Board recommend that Bro. William Ferguson, be summoned by the Grand Secretary to attend the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and show cause why he should not be expelled from the Craft.

15. ZEREDATHA LODGE, No. 220, } The accused in this
vs. } case has been tried and
BRO. M. P. SICKLES. } convicted for perjury,
and is now undergoing imprisonment for the same. He has been suspended by the Lodge, and recommended for expulsion.

The Board recommend that Bro. M. P. Sickles be summoned to attend the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and show cause why he should not be expelled.

16. IRVING LODGE, No. 154, } In this case the charges are
vs. } for bigamy and obtaining ad-
BRO. THOS. CAVANAGH. } mission to the Lodge by false
representations.

At the trial the accused acknowledged his guilt, and was suspended by the Lodge and recommended for expulsion.

He has been summoned to attend this meeting and show cause why he should not be expelled. In answer to this summons he does not show any sufficient cause.

The Board therefore recommend that Bro. Thos. Cavanagh be expelled from the Craft.

17. DORIC LODGE, No. 121, } Bro. W. M. Codling has
vs. } been tried and convicted of
BRO. W. M. CODLING. } larceny, and sentenced to the
Penitentiary for three years. He was suspended by the Lodge in August, 1875, and recommended for expulsion. He acknowledges his guilt and that he has thereby brought discredit on the craft—that he is liable to expulsion and consents that he may be so dealt with.

The Board recommend that Bro. W. M. Codling be expelled from the Craft.

The Board also recommend that in future the Grand Secre-

tary shall on the receipt of all complaints and appeals, summon all parties to attend at the next meeting of the Board, except in cases which he may have doubts as to that being the proper procedure, and in such cases he shall submit the papers to the M. W. Grand Master, and be guided by his instructions as to the course to pursue, to the end that there shall be as little delay as possible in disposing of all cases of grievances and appeals.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,

President B. of G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved,—That the Report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals be received.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet on to-morrow (Thursday) morning at half-past ten o'clock.

THURSDAY, July 13, A. D. 1876.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 10.15 o'clock, A. M.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C., Grand Master.

On the Throne,

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. H. Benson, and

Resolved,—That the sum of \$4,000.00 be taken from the general funds of Grand Lodge, and transferred to the fund of Benevolence, current account.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by W. Bro. J. E. Gould, seconded by V. W. Bro. G. H. Dartnell, and

Resolved,—That the Township of Uxbridge, in the County of Ontario, be Masonically included in the Toronto District.

M. W. Bro. H. C. Clark, Past Grand Master of the Grand

Lodge of Manitoba, was announced, presented and received with grand honors.

In accordance with notice given at the last Annual Communication,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, seconded by R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved,—That Article 1, "of proposing members" in the Book of Constitution, be amended by inserting next after the words "the next stated lodge meeting," the words, "and in all cases held not less than four weeks from the date of the application."

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. A. Henderson, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Condition of Masonry be adopted.

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following report on

THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

The Board of General Purposes beg leave to report to the Grand Lodge that the several brethren hereafter named :

1 Anderson, Thomas	Toronto.	M. M. Ashlar Lodge, 247.
2 Barton, Thomas R.	London.	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
3 Beecher, George M.	"	M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
4 Bridle, Oliver J.	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
5 Boston, Alex. A.	"	M. M. Prince of Wales Lodge, 171.
6 Bowman, Daniel M.	"	" St. John's Lodge, 209a.
7 Cohen, Lawrence	Toronto,	P. M. Antiquity Lodge, Q.
8 Collamore, O. G.	London,	M. M. Barton Lodge, 6.
9 Conover, Charles A.	"	W. M. Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
10 Davis, G. W. H.	St. Thomas.	M. M. Springfield Lodge, 259.
11 Edge, William T.	London.	" Spartan Lodge, 176.
12 Fitzgerald, Wm. W.	"	" Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
13 Graham, Chas. W.	"	" (late of) Prince of Wales Lodge, 171.
14 Grant, Peter	"	" Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
15 Gray, George	"	" " " "
16 Groat, Stillman P.	"	" (late of) Durham Lodge, 66.
17 Hagarty, D. M. J.	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
18 Hall, James J.	St. Marys.	M. M. St. James Lodge, 73.
19 Hersey, Samuel C.	Lucan,	" King Hiram Lodge, 37.
20 Hiscox, George T.	London.	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
21 Hossack, Thomas	Lucan,	M. M. St. John's Lodge, 68.
22 Iredale, Joseph	St. Marys.	" St. James Lodge, 73.
23 Jackson, George	London.	" (late of) St. Johns Lodge, 20.
24 Jones, Joseph W.	"	" Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
25 Judson, William L.	"	" Tecumseh Lodge, 245.

26 Latimer, James F.	"	M. M.	St. Mark's Lodge, 94.
27 Ley, John H.	"	"	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
28 McCosh, Donald J.	Lucan.	"	Irving Lodge, 154.
29 McCosh, James D.	"	"	" " "
30 McConnell, T. H.	London.	"	King Hiram Lodge, 37.
31 McGloghlon, W. D.	"	P. M.	Albion Lodge, 80.
32 Mara, Edward	Lucan.	M. M.	St. James Lodge, 73.
33 Meek, Edward	Toronto.	"	"
34 Minton, Thomas	London.	E. A.	Eden Lodge, late U. D.
35 Morris, M.	Toronto.	M. M.	"
36 Oakes, William W.	St. Thomas.	"	(late of) Spartan Lodge, 176.
37 Peel, John R.	London	P. M.	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
38 Sabine, Joseph B.	"	E. A.	Eden Lodge, late U. D.
39 Slater, Edward K.	"	M. M.	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
40 Smith, Frederick	Toronto.	"	"
41 Smith, Peter	London.	E. A.	Eden Lodge, late U. D.
42 Smith, William E.	St. Thomas.	M. M.	St. David's Lodge, 302.
43 Solomon, Mark	Toronto.	"	Wilson Lodge, 86.
44 Street, William H.	London.	"	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
45 Turner, Daniel	"	E. A.	Eden Lodge, late U. D.
46 Westlake, Francis	"	P. M.	St. George's Lodge, 42.
47 Wright, Miles A.	"	M. M.	Bothwell Lodge, 179.
48 Wrigley, George	"	"	St. John's Lodge, 20.

having been suspended by the Grand Master, subject to action to be now taken, for causes fully set forth in his opening address to the Grand Lodge; and such action having been fully endorsed and approved of by Grand Lodge in their adoption of the reply to his address—and the said suspended brethren having been duly summoned to attend before this Board and shew cause in the premises, and having failed to appear, the Board recommend that with regard to all the above named brethren save and except, Bros. O. G. Collamore, Charles W. Graham, George Gray, and M. A. Wright, of London, and M. Morris, and Frederick Smith, of Toronto, they be severally excluded and expelled from all the rights, privileges and benefits of Freemasonry, and with respect to the five last named brethren that the suspension of the said brethren be continued until the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and that as to Bro. the Rev. O. G. Collamore, that the suspension be removed on his giving satisfactory assurance to the M. W. Grand Master, of loyalty to this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WELLER,

President B. of G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman, and

Resolved,—That the report just read be received and adopted.

EXPULSIONS BY GRAND LODGE.

The brethren hereafter named were duly called at the portals of Grand Lodge by the Grand Director of Ceremonies, when

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman, and unanimously

Resolved,—That this Grand Lodge hereby declare that the following brethren, namely :

1 Anderson, Thomas	Toronto.	M. M. Ashlar Lodge, 247.
2 Barton, Thos. R.	London.	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
3 Beecher, George M.	"	M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
4 Bridle, Oliver J.	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
5 Boston, Alex. A.	"	M. M. Prince of Wales Lodge, 171.
6 Bowman, Daniel M.	"	" St. John's Lodge, 209a.
7 Cohen, Lawrence	Toronto.	P. M. Antiquity Lodge, Montreal.
8 Conover, Charles A.	London.	W. M. Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
9 Davis, G. W. H.	St. Thomas.	M. M. Springfield Lodge, 259.
10 Edge, William T.	London.	" Spartan Lodge, 176.
11 Fitzgerald, Wm. W.	"	" Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
12 Grant, Peter	"	" " "
13 Groat, Stillman P.	"	(late of) Durham Lodge, 66.
14 Hagarty, D. M. J.	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
15 Hall, James J.	St. Marys.	M. M. St. James Lodge, 73.
16 Hersey, Samuel C.	Lucan,	" King Hiram Lodge, 37.
17 Hiscox, George T.	London.	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
18 Hossack, Thomas.	Lucan,	M. M. St. John's Lodge, 68.
19 Iredale, Joseph	St. Marys.	" St. James Lodge, 73.
20 Jackson, George	London.	" (late of) St. John's Lodge, 20.
21 Jones, Joseph W.	"	" Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
22 Judson, William L.	"	" Tecumseh Lodge, 245.
23 Latimer, James F.	"	" St. Mark's Lodge, 94.
24 Ley, John H.	"	" Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
25 McCosh, Donald J.	Lucan,	" Irving Lodge, 154.
26 McCosh, James D.	"	" " "
27 McConnell, T. H.	London.	" King Hiram Lodge, 37.
28 McGloghlon, Wm. D.	"	P. M. Albion Lodge, 80.
29 Mara, Edward	Lucan,	M. M. St. James Lodge, 73.
30 Meek, Edward	Toronto.	"
31 Minton, Thomas	London.	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
32 Oakes, William W.	St. Thomas.	M. M. (late of) Spartan Lodge, 176.
33 Peel, John R.	London.	P. M. Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
34 Sabine, Joseph B.	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
35 Slater, Edward K.	"	M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
36 Smith, Peter	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
37 Smith, William E.	St. Thomas.	M. M. St. David's Lodge, 302.
38 Solomon, Mark	Toronto,	" Wilson Lodge, 86.
39 Street, William H.	London.	" Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
40 Turner, Daniel	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
41 Westlake, Francis	"	P. M. St. George's Lodge, 42.
42 Wrigley, George	"	M. M. St. John's Lodge, 20.

having been duly called at the Portals of Grand Lodge, and having

failed to answer or appear, are hereby severally excluded and expelled from all the rights, benefits and privileges of Free Masonry, of which all Lodges and Masons will take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

ADOPTION OF REPORTS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals be adopted.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman, seconded by R. W. Bro. the Rev. V. Clementi, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Trustees of the Masonic Asylum Trust be adopted.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Jurisprudence, Constitutions, and Regulations be adopted.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, seconded by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Benevolence be adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The M. W. the Grand Master appointed the following brethren scrutineers of the Ballot for Grand Officers, and elective members of the Board of General Purposes, viz., R. W. Bros. D. Spry, and J. E. Harding, and W. Bro. J. D. Henderson.

The Scrutineers having reported, the following brethren were declared duly elected Office Bearers for the ensuing term, viz :

M. W. Bro. James K. Kerr, Q. C.,	Toronto,	Grand Master.
R. " " W. H. Weller,	Cobourg.	D. Grand Master.
" " " H. Fred. Sharp,	St. Marys,	G. S. Warden.
" " " E. Allworth,	Kingsville,	G. Junior Warden.
" " " W. R. Ross,	Pickering,	Grand Chaplain.
" " " E. Mitchell,	Hamilton.	" Treasurer.
" " " Isaac Waterman,	London,	" Registrar.
" " " J. J. Mason,	Hamilton,	" Secretary.
and by an open vote of Grand Lodge		
" Richard Radcliff,	St. Catharines,	" Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following brethren were nominated by the representatives of Lodges, as District Deputy Grand Masters for their

respective Districts, and were approved by the M. W. the Grand Master, viz :

R. W. Bro.	Thos. C. Macnabb,	Chatham.	St. Clair	District.
" "	James Sutton,	Lucan.	London	"
" "	Chauncey Bennett,	Port Rowan.	Wilson	"
" "	J. G. Cooper,	Walkerton.	Huron	"
" "	John Cavers,	Galt,	Wellington	"
" "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton.	Hamilton	"
" "	John Dale,	Thorold.	Niagara	"
" "	Daniel Spry,	Toronto.	Toronto	"
" "	E. Peplow, jr.	Port Hope.	Ontario	"
" "	Donald Ross,	Pictou,	Prince Edward	"
" "	James Stephenson,	Iroquois,	St. Lawrence	"
" "	William Kerr,	Ottawa.	Ottawa	"

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

ELECTED MEMBERS.

R. W. Bro.	Otto Klotz,	P. D. D. G. M.,	Preston.
" "	C. D. Macdonnell,	P. D. D. G. M.,	Peterborough.
" "	J. B. Traves,	P. D. D. G. M.,	Port Hope.
" "	Henry Robertson,	P. D. D. G. M.,	Collingwood.
" "	Henry Macpherson,	P. G. S. W.,	Owen Sound.

APPOINTED MEMBERS.

R. W. Bro.	J. H. Benson,	P. D. D. G. M.,	Seaforth.
" "	Allan McLean,	P. G. S. W.,	Ingersoll.
" "	John McLaren,	P. D. D. G. M.,	Mount Forest.
" "	J. W. Pickup,	P. D. D. G. M.,	Pakenham.
V. W.	Thomas Saigant,	P. G. Steward,	Toronto.

EXPENSES OF COMMISSIONERS.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, seconded by R. W. Bro. Rev. V. Clementi, and

Resolved,—That the travelling expenses of the Commissioners appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master to investigate the appeal of Bro. John H. Ley against his suspension, and to enquire into all matters connected with the seditious movement of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, be paid out of the general funds of Grand Lodge, on the certificate of the President of the Board.

NEXT ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

In accordance with notices given, the following places were proposed for holding the next Annual Communication, viz. :

R. W. Bro. David Curtis, Town of Brantford.

" " " Allan McLean, City of St. Catharines.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been severally taken on the

places put in nomination, the majority of the votes were in favor of the City of St. Catharines, and St. Catharines was declared to be the place for the holding of the next Annual Communication.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by R. W. Bro. John Nettleton, seconded by V. W. Bro. G. H. Dartnell, and

Resolved,—That the notices of motion to be brought up in the Grand Lodge, be sent to each Lodge at the same time as the annual notice of the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

RE-DISTRIBUTION OF DISTRICTS.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves, seconded by R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, and

Resolved,—That in consequence of complaints made that the Districts as at present constituted, are too cumbersome to admit of efficient working by the D. D. G. M's., the M. W. the Grand Master, be requested to appoint a committee to consider the propriety of re-constructing the several Districts, and, if possible, recommend some scheme for their re-distribution for the consideration and adoption by the next meeting of Grand Lodge. Also, that the present arrangement by counties be abandoned, and the railway facilities for reaching Lodges taken into consideration instead.

Whereupon the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to appoint the following Committee, namely: R. W. Bros. J. B. Traves, Daniel Spry, J. E. Harding, J. A. Henderson, and J. J. Mason.

RESOLUTION RESPECTING LATE GRAND TREASURER.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, and

Resolved,—That this Grand Lodge learns with regret that our late esteemed Grand Treasurer, R. W. Bro. Henry Groff, should feel called upon to decline re-election to a position that he has so faithfully and with so much satisfaction filled for nearly twenty years; and while complying with his request to be relieved from further responsibility, Grand Lodge cannot permit his retirement to take place, without placing on record its high sense of the promptitude and fidelity with which the R. W. Bro. has at all times discharged the onerous duties required from him.

RESOLUTION RESPECTING TIME OF MEETING.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Henderson, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. B. Trayes, and

Resolved,—That this Grand Lodge considers that the time of holding its meeting might, with great advantage be changed so that the Annual Communication be held in a cooler month.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 4 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, 13th July, A. D. 1876.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 4.15 P. M.

PRESENT:

M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C., Grand Master

On the Throne,

Grand Officers, Members, and Representatives.

W. Bro. Lee, a member of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was announced, introduced, and welcomed by the M. W. the Grand Master.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

The M. W. the Grand Master, proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

At a subsequent date the M. W. the Grand Master, was pleased to notify the Grand Secretary of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz:

V. W. Bro.	James Speight, Markham,	Grand Senior Deacon.
" "	J. M. Platt, M. D., Picton,	Junior "
" "	Hugh Walker, Guelph,	Superintendent of Works.
" "	W. J. Hambly, Toronto,	Director of Ceremonies.
" "	J. M. Gibson, Hamilton,	Asst. Secretary.
" "	C. H. Corbett, Kingston,	Asst. Director of Ceremonies.
" "	Wm. Brydon, Toronto,	Sword Bearer.
" "	George J. Waugh, Stratford,	Organist.
" "	W. D. Lockhart, Orono,	Asst. "
" "	John Bishop, Brantford,	Pursuivant.

V. W. Bro. Wm. Young, Chatham,	}	Grand Stewards.
" " " John Fisher, Eglington,		
" " " J. Jas. Lundy, Peterboro',		
" " " Robt. Newbery, Belleville,		
" " " Robt. Paterson, Pt. Dalhousie,		
" " " Wm. Fleming, London,		
" " " Henry Smith, Plantagenet,		
" " " J. C. Doeblor, Port Hope,		
" " " R. McIntosh, M. D., Meaford,		
" " " George Risk, Plattsville,		
" " " Robert Weir, York,		
" " " George Walker, Beamsville,		

THE LATE M. W. BRO. A. BERNARD.

The following communication from the R. W. the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, was ordered to be entered on the minutes and suitably acknowledged :

GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC, A. F. AND A. M.

Grand Secretary's Office,

Montreal, 11th July, 1876.

J. J. MASON, Esq.,

Grand Secretary of G. L. of C.

R. W. SIR AND DEAR BROTHER,—I am instructed by the M. W. the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, to respectfully invite the attendance of the M. W. the Grand Master, Grand Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to attend in this city the funeral of the late Aldis Bernard, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Canada, on Saturday next, the 15th instant.

I am further directed to state for the information of the Grand Lodge of Canada, that a Special Emergent Funeral Communication of this Grand Lodge is called for Saturday next, at 1 o'clock, p. m., to be holden at Masonic Hall, Place D'Armes, in this city, to take charge of the funeral, at which the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Canada are respectfully invited to be present.

With assurance of esteem,

I am,

Yours fraternally,

JOHN H. ISAACSON,

Grand Secretary of G. L. of Q.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies, presented the following supplementary

REPORT.

The Committee on Credentials beg to report, that at this Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, there are 216 Lodges

represented—121 by the duly qualified representatives, and 95 by Proxy, whilst there are unrepresented 86 Lodges.

Amongst the Proxies presented to your Committee—86 were in regular form, 6 were without any seal.

There were presented, 7 proxies which were granted to a W. M. or S. or J. W., and therefore not required, 2 proxies transferred by the parties to whom they were originally granted, to other brethren, 1 Proxy granted to a brother, and the name changed without authority, 1 Proxy granted to a brother not being a duly qualified representative, and 2 Proxies granted by Lodges under dispensation.

These 13 your committee had to reject, and would recommend that the D. D. G. M's be particular in giving instruction to the several Lodges in their respective districts as to their duties in these matters, in order to secure proper representation in Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. D. MACDONNELL,

Chairman.

On motion the foregoing Report was received and adopted.

VOTES OF THANKS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Chauncey Bennett, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. H. Benson, and

Resolved,—That a cordial vote of thanks be tendered to the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, for the satisfactory manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Chauncey Bennett, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves, and

Resolved,—That the thanks of Grand Lodge be tendered to the Scrutineers of the ballot for the satisfactory manner in which they have discharged their arduous duties.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves, seconded by R. W. Bro. James Sutton, and

Resolved,—That the cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby heartily tendered to the Committee of Management of the Ottawa Lodges, for the ample and satisfactory arrangements made for the holding of the present annual Communication.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. C. D. Macdonnell, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, and

Resolved,—That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the various Railway and Steamboat Companies, for their liberality in reducing the fares to delegates attending this annual Communication.

NOTICES OF MOTION FOR NEXT ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1. By R. W. Bro. the Rev. Vincent Clementi,—That the Constitution be amended by altering the time for holding the annual communications of Grand Lodge.

2. By V. W. Bro. William Forbes,—That Section 1 “of the Board of General Purposes” in the Book of Constitution, be amended by striking out all after the words. “the two Wardens.”

That Section 3 be struck out.

That the words following in Section 4 be struck out, namely, “if one appointed by the Grand Master, then his “successor shall be appointed by the Grand Master; but if “one elected by the Grand Lodge, then” and that the words “District Deputy Grand Masters” be inserted in place thereof.

That should there be any other alterations required, consequent on this reduction of the Board of General Purposes, not now observed, they be also made.

3. By R. W. Bro. E. Peplow, jr.,—That a new clause be added to the Book of Constitution, under the head of “Private Lodges,” as follows:

“The Master of every Lodge shall cause the Secretary to forward a copy of every summons issued to the members of his Lodge, whether for a regular or an emergent meeting, to the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the Lodge is situated.

4. By R. W. Bro. James Moffat,—That Article 1 “of honorary members” in the Book of Constitution, be amended by striking out the words following, “and pay to the Grand Lodge similar dues for such honorary members as are payable for ordinary members.”

5. By W. Bro. Alexander Patterson,—That Article 14, “of Fees” in the Book of Constitution, be amended by striking out the word “fifty,” and inserting therefor the words “twenty-five.”

6. By V. W. Bro. H. L. Vercoe,—That Article 17, “of the Grand Lodge,” in the Book of Constitution, be amended so as to provide that the annual communication of Grand Lodge shall be held on the first Wednesday in June, or such other day in the month of June as may then be determined.

7. By W. Bro. J. Cascaden,—That the Book of Constitution be so amended as to provide that all routine business

in private Lodges be done in the third degree, instead of the first as at present.

8. By V. W. Bro. William Forbes,—That the expenses of District Deputy Grand Masters, be paid by this Grand Lodge, by allowing a certain amount for each Lodge.

The Business of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed in Ample Form.

ATTEST.



H. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

The Grand Secretary in account current with Grand Lodge.
Moneys received from the 1st January to the 31st December,
1875.

NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.	NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.
2 Niagara.....	44 00	55 Merrickville.....	33 00
3 TheAncient St.John's	112 87	56 Victoria.....	92 00
4 Dorchester....	39 25	57 Harmony.....	60 50
5 Sussex.....	92 49	58 Doric.....	51 00
6 Barton.....	148 75	59 Corinthian.....	18 50
7 Union.....	66 43	61 Acacia.....	60 75
9 Union.....	99 75	62 St. Andrew's.....	51 75
10 Norfolk.....	22 75	63 St. John's.....	64 12
11 Moira.....	73 00	64 Kilwinning.....	114 62
13 Western Light.....	2 00	65 Rehoboam.....	36 75
14 True Britons.....	58 50	66 Durham.....	44 25
15 St. George's.....	81 25	68 St. John's.....	100 75
16 St. Andrew's.....	124 73	72 Alma.....	108 50
17 St. John's.....	62 50	73 St. James.....	71 25
18 Prince Edward.....	129 50	74 St. James.....	60 78
20 St. John's.....	79 75	75 St. John's.....	133 75
22 King Solomon's.....	177 25	76 Oxford.....	23 75
24 St. Francis.....	40 48	77 Faithful Brethren...	52 00
25 Ionic.....	50 00	78 King Hiram.....	50 00
26 Ontario.....	41 36	79 Simcoe.....	21 00
27 Strict Observance....	124 25	80 Albion.....	42 23
28 Mount Zion.....	35 25	81 St. John's.....	35 75
29 United.....	49 50	82 St. John's.....	28 00
30 Composite.....	29 12	83 Beaver.....	56 50
31 Jerusalem.....	25 50	84 Clinton.....	40 25
32 Amity.....	132 50	86 Wilson.....	127 00
33 Goderich.....	83 86	87 Markham Union....	30 00
34 Thistle.....	107 50	88 St. George's.....	37 75
35 St. John's.....	19 75	89 King Hiram.....	17 08
36 Welland.....	66 50	90 Manito.....	124 75
37 King Hiram.....	26 50	91 Colborne.....	62 24
38 Trent.....	60 00	92 Cataraqui.....	112 94
39 Mount Zion.....	43 00	93 Northern Light.....	96 50
40 St. John's.....	122 00	94 St. Mark's.....	62 62
41 St. George's.....	18 75	95 Ridout.....	45 25
42 St. George's.....	130 50	96 Corinthian.....	79 48
43 King Solomon's.....	79 75	97 Sharon.....	34 00
44 St Thomas.....	95 25	98 True Blue.....	37 75
45 Brant.....	37 75	99 Tuscan.....	83 34
46 Wellington.....	70 50	100 Valley.....	65 25
47 Great Western.....	57 00	101 Corinthian.....	43 25
48 Madoc.....	26 00	103 Maple Leaf.....	90 75
50 Consecon.....	31 00	104 St. John's.....	53 75
51 Corinthian.....	10 00	105 St. Mark's.....	83 75
54 Vaughan.....	41 00	106 Burford.....	46 73

GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT.—[Continued].

NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.	NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.
107 St. Paul's.....	30 75	171 Prince of Wales....	50 00
108 Blenheim.....	27 75	172 Ayr.....	48 50
109 Albion.....	59 62	176 Spartan.....	32 00
110 Central.....	48 25	177 The Builders.....	68 75
112 Maitland.....	30 75	178 Plattsville.....	61 36
113 Wilson.....	47 99	179 Bothwell.....	60 25
114 Hope.....	52 25	180 Speed.....	141 75
115 Ivy.....	46 00	181 Oriental.....	30 62
116 Cassia.....	10 50	183 Prince Albert.....	25 00
118 Union.....	40 25	184 Old Light.....	42 00
119 Maple Leaf.....	30 00	185 Enniskillen.....	13 50
120 Warren.....	16 25	189 Filius Viduæ.....	15 75
121 Doric.....	70 25	190 Belmont.....	66 50
122 Renfrew.....	70 25	192 Orillia.....	23 75
123 The Belleville.....	126 35	193 Scotland.....	31 75
125 Cornwall.....	78 25	194 Petrohia.....	29 50
126 Golden Rule.....	25 25	195 The Tuscan.....	50 50
127 Franck.....	37 25	196 Madawaska.....	77 50
128 Pembroke.....	58 25	197 Saugeen.....	40 00
129 The Rising Sun....	16 50	198 White Oak.....	37 75
131 St. Lawrence.....	26 00	200 St. Alban's.....	18 00
133 Lebanon Forest....	58 25	201 Leeds.....	55 25
135 St. Clair.....	38 50	203 Irvine.....	47 50
136 Richardson.....	50 00	205 New Dominion.....	37 25
137 Pythagoras.....	26 00	209a St. John's.....	59 00
139 Lebanon.....	83 75	209 Evergreen.....	20 00
140 Malahide.....	43 00	210 Hawkesbury.....	13 25
141 Tudor.....	82 49	212 Elysian.....	54 75
142 Excelsior.....	47 25	213 Dominion.....	39 86
144 Tecumseh.....	80 25	214 Craig.....	51 25
145 J. B. Hall.....	50 00	215 Lake.....	25 00
146 Prince of Wales....	51 75	216 Harris.....	41 50
147 Mississippi.....	19 00	217 Frederick.....	28 00
148 Civil Service.....	63 00	218 Stevenson.....	66 00
149 Erie.....	40 99	219 Credit.....	91 49
150 Hastings.....	39 50	220 Zeredatha.....	134 75
151 The Grand River....	41 50	221 Mountain.....	75 75
154 Irving.....	53 50	222 Marmora.....	12 00
155 Peterborough.....	24 37	223 Norwood.....	31 25
156 York.....	76 00	224 Zurich.....	27 00
157 Simpson.....	22 00	225 Bernard.....	2 00
158 Alexandra.....	53 25	228 Prince Arthur.....	30 00
159 Goodwood.....	26 25	229 Ionic.....	52 00
161 Percy.....	26 50	230 Kerr.....	42 75
162 Forest.....	9 25	231 Lodge of Fidelity....	82 99
164 Star in the East....	61 25	232 Cameron.....	15 25
165 Burlington.....	39 25	233 Doric.....	74 00
166 Wentworth.....	15 00	234 Beaver.....	30 00
168 Merritt.....	19 25	235 Aldworth.....	37 50
169 Macnab.....	51 75	236 Manitoba.....	20 00
170 Britannia.....	56 00	237 Vienna.....	18 25

GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT.—[Continued].

NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.	NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.
238 Havelock.....	67 00	297 Preston.....	34 75
239 Tweed.....	34 98	299 Victoria.....	35 74
240 Prince Rupert's.....	37 25	300 Mount Olivet.....	42 75
241 Quinte.. ..	27 50	301 Hanover.....	35 15
242 Macoy.....	40 98	302 St. David's	231 07
243 St. George.....	26 00	303 Blyth.....	27 25
245 Tecumseh	72 25	304 Minerva	42 74
247 Ashlar.....	51 00	305 Humber	10 00
248 Eureka... ..	45 00	306 Durham	59 72
249 Caledonian.....	35 75	307 Arkona.....	34 49
250 Thistle.....	36 00	308 Grafton.....	39 77
253 Minden.....	82 50	309 Morning Star	47 00
254 Clifton.....	27 50	310 Enterprise	15 00
255 Sydenham.....	35 45	311 Blackwood	64 21
256 Farran's Point.....	42 15	312 Pnyx	13 50
257 Galt	111 00	313 Clementi	76 75
258 Guelph.....	179 00	314 Blair	46 75
259 Springfield.....	33 00	315 Clifford.....	6 00
260 Washington.....	33 00	316 Doric.....	29 25
261 Oak Branch.....	43 50	317 The Hiram.....	22 35
262 Harriston.....	34 37	320 Chesterville	35 00
263 Forest.....	32 50	321 Walker.... ..	32 35
264 Chaudiere.....	52 75	322 North Star	16 50
265 Patterson.....	8 75	324 Temple.....	50 00
266 Northern Light.....	29 50	325 Orono	29 75
267 Parthenon.....	53 50	326 Zetland.....	93 25
268 Verulam	34 25	327 The Hammond	30 00
269 Brougham Union....	34 50	328 Ionic	38 50
370 Cedar	26 00	329 King Solomon.....	36 00
371 Wellington.....	26 25	330 Corinthian.....	56 75
272 Seymour	30 90	331 Fordwich.....	20 00
274 Kent	77 00	332 Stratford	20 00
276 Teeswater.....	19 50	Eden U. D.....	20 00
277 Seymour	77 48	Langton, U. D.....	20 00
279 New Hope.....	15 50	Highgate, U. D.....	20 00
280 Mount Sinai.....	28 75	Myrtle, U. D.....	20 00
281 Thorne	14 99	Dufferin, U. D.....	30 00
282 Lorne	33 31	Orient, U. D.....	30 00
283 Eureka.....	22 00	St. John's, U. D....	20 00
284 St. John's.....	58 00	Rulings & Resolutions	30
285 Seven Star.....	45 98	Interest.....	2,544 48
286 Wingham.....	28 75	Cash Sales, Proceed-	
287 Shuniah	50 50	ings	1 12
289 Doric.....	37 50	Cash Sales Certificate	1 00
290 Leamington.....	42 25	do Constitutions	1 50
291 Dufferin	30 25	do Dispensations	7 00
294 Moore	56 25		
295 Conestogo.....	70 50		
296 Temple.....	21 75		
		Total	\$16,675 32

CASH STATEMENT,

Moneys received by the Grand Secretary and paid over to the Grand Treasurer, from the 1st January to the 31st December, 1875.

DR.

CR.

1875.		1875.	
Dec. 31.—To Receipts.....	\$16,675 32	Jan'y 21—By Grand Treas...	\$ 800 00
		" 27—	" " 800 00
		March 8—	" " 1,000 00
		April 28—	" " 1,200 00
		May 29—	" " 600 00
		June 14—	" " 500 00
		" 28—	" " 1,000 00
		" 30—	" " 1,118 97
		" 30—	" " 227 44
		July 7—	" " 1,000 00
		" 9—	" " 2,000 00
		Aug. 6—	" " 500 00
		" 16—	" " 700 00
		Oct. 2—	" " 800 00
		Nov. 5—	" " 400 00
		" 11—	" " 600 00
		Dec. 29—	" " 700 00
		" 31—	" " 137 25
		" 31—	" " 1,591 66
			<u>\$16,675 32</u>
	<u>\$16,675 32</u>		

RECAPITULATION.

Certificates.....	\$3,337 00
Dues	7,622 21
Fees	2,085 50
Dispensations.....	473 00
Warrants.....	160 00
Constitutions	401 67
Interest on Dominion Stocks and Bank Deposits.....	2,544 48
Proceedings	51 46

\$16,675 32

Audited and found correct.

DANIEL SPRY,

Chairman Finance Committee.

COBOURG, 8th January, 1876.

GENERAL FUND.

OR. The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in account with HENRY GROFF, Grand Treasurer. *OK.*

1875. Jan.	5—To pd. Bro. Muir, Assistant to Grand Secretary.....	\$ 175 00
8—	Mrs. T. B. Harris, for late G. Sec.'s salary to 30th Sept., 1874	400 00
11—	J. J. Mason, salary as Grand Secretary to 30th Sept. 1874.....	200 00
17—	Grand Treasurer, for contingencies.....	4 00
18—	W. Bruce for engraving.....	12 75
	E. Hais & Stirling, for blank forms	13 00
19—	Copp, Clark & Co., for certificates.....	292 90
20—	Morton & Reid, for coal	23 37
	Buntin, Gillies & Co. for stationery	36 40
	Do. paper for reprint of proceedings	647 50
	Grand Secretary, for gas.....	5 50
	Do. for back work of late G. Sec.	200 00
22 —	R. W. Bro. Bennett, funeral expenses of late Grand Master.....	476 05
	R. W. Bro. Bennett, for medical attend- ance, late Grand Master	360 39
	R. W. Bro. Kerr, expenses of Board Meet- ing, St. Catharines.....	229 00
24 —	Transferred to Benev. Invest. account, 10 per cent. receipts 1874.....	105 12
	T. & R. White, for printing.....	1,407 01
March 6—	M. W. Bro. T. White, for Quebec brethren	14 25
9—	Henry Harding, for gas fixtures	4,000 00
10—	R. W. Bro. Mudge, attending Board Meet- ing at Toronto	14 85
22—	R. Butcher, for carpenter work	4 00
30—	Lawson, McCulloch & Co., for rent	20 10
	Do. for printing, &c.	50 00
	Grand Secretary, for postage, late G. Sec.	827 25
	Do. for incidentals	52 57
	Do.	162 72
To amount carried forward		\$10,023 72
1875. Jan.	1—By balance, per account	\$ 33,129 32
8—	25—" Grand Secretary	800 00
11—	28—" Do. do.	800 00
Feb.	March 4—" Discount on \$1,500 of 5 per cent Dominion Stock, charged "Stocks at par.....	7 50
17—	8—" Grand Secretary	1,000 00
18—	28—" Do. do.	453 80
	May 23—" Do. do.	6,000 00
19—	June 14—" Do. do.	212 50
20—	28—" Do. do.	1,000 00
	July 2—" Do. do.	1,118 97
	7—" Do. do.	962 61
	12—" Do. do.	1,000 00
22 —	6—" Do. do.	2,000 00
	20—" Do. do.	500 00
	Oct'r. 2—" Do. do.	700 00
	Nov'r. 5—" Do. do.	53 80
	11—" Do. do.	37 50
	Dec'r. 22—" Do. do.	600 00
24 —	29—" Do. do.	700 00
24 —	31—" Do. do.	1,591 63
By amount carried forward.....		\$47,267 66

GENERAL FUND. — (Continued.)

	1875.	\$ cts.	1875.	\$ cts.
			By amount brought forward.....	47,267 66
1875.				
April 1—To p'd. Grand Secretary, quarter's salary to 31st March, 1875		10,023 73		
April 1—Bro. Muir, salary Asst. to Grand Sec'y to 31st March, 1875		400 00		
May 29—E. & C. Gurney, for stove and sundries ..		175 00		
June 26—W. W. Summers, for carpenter work		35 95		
July 9—Grand Secretary, for salary to 30th June, 1875		4 50		
"Bro. Muir, Assistant to Grand Secretary to 30th June, 1875.....		400 00		
"Grand Secretary, box for regalia		175 00		
"Hamilton Masonic Hall, for rent to 30th June, 1875		13 45		
"Grand Secretary attending Board at St. Catharines		131 25		
"Grand Secretary for incidentals.....		8 25		
"Do for advance on incidentals ..		175 12		
"R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, report on foreign correspondence		150 00		
"Grand Sec'y, expenses Board at London ..		50 00		
"Lawson, McCulloch & Co., for reprinting proceedings		575 30		
"Do, for printing.....		574 19		
"Copp, Clark & Co., for certificates.....		102 50		
"F. Mudge, for attending Board, 1874, balance		236 24		
"R. L. Gunn, for insurance		2 00		
"Richard Haigh, for registers.....		14 00		
"W. C. Eccleston, for sundries.....		124 35		
"Buntin, Gillies & Co., for stationery.....		7 00		
"Ennis and Sturton for printing.....		9 35		
"Grand Sec., expenses of Grand Lodge Meeting at London		41 50		
"Grand Secretary, expenses to London.....		101 50		
		15 25		
To amount carried forward		\$13,548 43	By amount carried forward.....	\$47,267 66

GENERAL FUND.—(Continued.)

1875.		\$	cts.	1875.		\$	cts.
	To amount brought forward	13,548	43		By amount brought forward	47,267	66
Aug. 30—	To p'd. Murtion & Reid, for coal	19	25				
Sept. 29—	" " Chaudiere Lodge, No. 364, fees remitted ..	31	50				
Oct'r 2—	Grand Secretary, quarter's salary to 30th September, 1875	400	00				
4—	" " to Mrs. T. B. Harris, quarterly grant 30th Sept., 1875	75	00				
	" " Bro. Muir, Assistant to Grand Secretary to 30th Sept., 1875	175	00				
7—	" " Miss Mary Wilson, quarterly allowance to 30th Sept., 1875	75	00				
12—	" " Mrs. W. M. Wilson, quarterly allowance to 30th Sept., 1875	75	00				
23—	" " Grand Master, half year's allowance to 31st Dec., 1875	250	00				
Dec. 31—	" " Mrs. W. M. Wilson, quarterly allowance to date	75	00				
	" " Grand Secretary, for rent of office to date ..	87	50				
	" " Bro. Muir, Assistant to Grand Secretary, to date	175	00				
	" " Grand Secretary, quarter's salary to date ..	400	00				
	" " Transferred to Benevolence, current account	2,500	00				
	To Balance	29,380	98				
		\$47,267	66			\$47,267	66

SIMCOE, 3rd January, 1876.

E. E.

HENRY GROFF, *Grand Treasurer.*

BENEVOLENT FUND—Current Account.

CR.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in account with HENRY GROFF, Grand Treasurer.

D.R.

	1875.	\$	cts.		1875.	\$	cts.
5—To p'd. Mrs. Geo. Smith	Jan.	25	00	1—By balance as per acc't	Jan.	25	00
15— " Toronto Board of Relief	June	150	00	30— " Interest on Bank acc't	June	2,233	02
15— " Hamilton do. do.		75	00	30— " Dep. in Bank by Grand Sec'y, Interest on Do-		227	44
15— " Bro. Donald		30	00	minion Stocks		746	20
15— " Adams		20	00	do. do.		287	50
15— " Mrs. Patterson	July	25	00	9— " Interest on Dominion Stock		37	39
15— " Owens	Nov.	20	00	5— " Grand Secretary, Interest on Dominion Stock		746	20
15— " Howson	Dec.	20	00	do. do.		382	50
15— " Kesteven		15	00	31— " Interest on Bank acc't, C. B. of C.		137	25
15— " Hunter		15	00	31— " From General Fund		2,500	00
15— " Kneeshaw		20	00				
15— " Dixon		20	00				
15— " Goldsmith		15	00				
15— " McGilvary		10	00				
15— " Bro. J. Barker		30	00				
15— " J. M. Muncy		20	00				
15— " Mrs. Quackenbush		15	00				
15— " " Sheldgrove		20	00				
16— " " Westcott		20	00				
16— " " Griffith		25	00				
17— " " Taylor		15	00				
17— " Bro. Fanguhero		30	00				
17— " " Pitt		20	00				
17— " Mrs. White		20	00				
18— " Son of Bro. Cowil		25	00				
18— " London Board of Relief		75	00				
18— " Mrs. Page		25	00				
18— " " McIntyre		25	00				
18— " " Watson		20	00				
18— " Bro. Stewart		30	00				
18— " Mrs. Harris		150	00				
18— " Miss Wilson		150	00				
19— " Mrs. Meikle		30	00				
19— " " Camp		25	00				
To amount carried forward				By amount carried forward			
\$1,225 00				\$7,277 50			

BENEVOLENT FUND—(Continued.)

		1875			
		\$ cts.			
1875.	To amount brought forward.....	1,225	00	By amount brought forward.....	\$7,277 50
Feb.	19—To p'd. Mrs. Mackie.....	25	00		
	20—" " Wright.....	20	00		
	20—" " Wood.....	40	00		
	20—" " Bro. R. C. Martin.....	25	00		
	22—" " Mrs. Pringle.....	30	00		
	22—" " Hamilton.....	20	00		
	22—" " Gott.....	20	00		
	23—" " Orphans of Bro. Fowler.....	30	00		
	23—" " Mrs. Benedict.....	20	00		
	24—" " Bro. E. Tighe.....	20	00		
	24—" " Illing.....	40	00		
	24—" " Mrs. W. M. Wilson.....	150	00		
	25—" " Benson.....	20	00		
	26—" " Philpot.....	30	00		
	27—" " Clarke.....	25	00		
	27—" " Killins.....	50	00		
	27—" " Bro. Newbold.....	20	00		
	27—" " Mrs. McLellan.....	30	00		
	27—" " Bro. Brown.....	20	00		
	27—" " Mrs. Turner.....	20	00		
Mar.	3—" " Andrews.....	20	00		
	3—" " Kingston Board of Relief.....	50	00		
	4—" " Bro. Schreiber.....	20	00		
	6—" " Keyes.....	20	00		
	8—" " Mrs. Bastedo.....	20	00		
	8—" " Bro. McPhail.....	25	00		
	9—" " O. Camb.....	20	00		
	9—" " Mrs. Sutherland.....	25	00		
	11—" " Scarth & Cochrane for accrued interest on \$1,500, Dominion Stock 5 per cent ...	24	86		
	11—" " Scarth & Cochrane for 6 per cent. Dominion Stock including accrued interest, \$900.55 less charged stock account, par value \$873.33	27	22		
To amount carried forward.....				\$2,112 08	
				By amount carried forward.....	
				\$7,277 50	

BENEVOLENT FUND—(Continued.)

1875.		cts.	1875.	cts.
Mar.	To amount brought forward.....	2,112 08	By amount brought forward	7,277 50
17—	To p'd. Bro. Fry	25 00		
17—	" Mrs. Cranston.....	25 00		
11—	" " Fitzkelly.....	25 00		
11—	" " Judd	30 00		
11—	Bro. Johnston	25 00		
11—	Mrs. Mayhew	20 00		
20—	" Madheson	20 00		
April	Bro. Shears	25 00		
7—	Mrs. Horkop.....	30 00		
23—	" Hockridge	25 00		
June	Accrued Interest on Dominion Stock purchased	28 35		
30—	Mrs. Geo. Smith	15 00		
2—	" E. J. Andrews.....	25 00		
9—	" Doyle	20 00		
30—	" Turner	20 00		
30—	Toronto Board of Relief	250 00		
30—	Hamilton do. do.	100 00		
30—	Mrs. Page.....	30 00		
31—	London Board of Relief	75 00		
31—	Mrs. White	30 00		
2—	Guelph Board of Relief.....	50 00		
2—	Bro. E. Tighe.....	20 00		
2—	" S. Shubluck	50 00		
2—	Mrs. Gordon	25 00		
2—	Bro. S. J. Donovan	30 00		
2—	Mrs. Burge.....	30 00		
2—	" Long.....	25 00		
3—	" Quackenbush.....	25 00		
3—	Orphans of Bro. Craig	30 00		
3—	Mrs. Griffith	25 00		
3—	" Fisher	30 00		
3—	" Pringle.....	30 00		
4—	" Westcott	30 00		
Aug.	To amount carried forward.....	\$3,350 43	By amount carried forward	\$7,277 50

BENEVOLENT FUND—(Continued.)

1875.		1875.	
		By amount brought forward	\$ cts.
N 1875.			
Aug,	To amount brought forward		3,350 43
4—	To p'd. Mrs. Maybee		20 00
4—	" Hilton		40 00
4—	" Richards		50 00
4—	" Meikle		30 00
4—	Bro. Illing		40 00
4—	Mrs. Smith		30 00
4—	" Gott		25 00
4—	" Mackie		25 00
5—	" Patterson		20 00
5—	Bro. Gamnoch		25 00
5—	Mrs. McGregor		25 00
5—	" C. Smith		30 00
6—	" Owens		25 00
6—	" Dixon		20 00
6—	" Goldsmith		25 00
6—	" Jolly		30 00
6—	Bro. Parker		30 00
6—	" Adams		25 00
6—	" Murray		20 00
6—	" B. Hill		25 00
6—	Mrs. McIntyre		25 00
6—	" Taylor		20 00
6—	Edgar		25 00
6—	" Challenger		25 00
6—	" Matheson		20 00
7—	" Andrew		20 00
7—	Bro. O'Camb		20 00
7—	" Newbold		20 00
7—	Mrs. Glegg		25 00
7—	" Gibson		40 00
7—	" Crow		25 00
7—	" Wood		40 00
7—	Bro. Fry		25 00
7—	" Gordon		30 00
To amount carried forward			\$4,280 43
		By amount brought forward	\$7,277 50

BENEVOLENT FUND—(Continued.)

1875.		1875.	
Aug.		\$	cts.
7—	To amount brought forward	4,280	43
7—	7—To p'd. Bro. Reinhart.....	25	00
7—	Mrs. McClelland	30	00
7—	" Potter	30	00
7—	" Davy	50	00
9—	" McDowell	25	00
9—	" Hill	20	00
10—	" Roblin	30	00
10—	" Keyls	40	00
12—	Mrs. Watson	20	00
12—	" Brackon	30	00
12—	Bro. Graves	50	00
13—	Mrs. Graham	30	00
13—	" Gordon	30	00
13—	Orphanus of Bro. Todd	20	00
13—	Bro. Brown	30	00
13—	Mrs. Munroe	40	00
13—	" Benedict	20	00
13—	" Benson	20	00
14—	Bro. Sweeney	25	00
14—	Mrs. Sutherland	40	00
14—	" Hill	25	00
14—	" Zimmerman	30	00
14—	Bro. Harding for Bro. Wallace	50	00
17—	Mrs. Hourton	30	00
18—	Bro. McGaffrey	25	00
19—	Mrs. Hamilton	20	00
19—	Bro. McPhail	25	00
21—	Mrs. Flanagan	30	00
23—	Miss Price	25	00
25—	Mrs. Thompson	25	00
26—	" Judd	40	00
26—	" Archer	25	00
26—	" Hicks	20	00
26—	" Butcher	30	00
	To amount carried forward	5,285	43
	By amount brought forward	7,277	50

Returns of Subordinate Lodges, as at 24th June, 1876.

Lodges marked thus (*) hold their installation of Officers on Festival of St. John the Evangelist; all others on that of St. John the Baptist.

NO.	LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	W. MASTER.	SECRETARY.
2	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	Wednesday on or before full moon every month	Stephen H. Pollett.....	John G. G. Rousseau.
3	*The Aue't St. John's.....	Kingston.....	First Thursday.....	C. H. Corbett.....	F. Elkington.
5	*Sussex.....	Brockville.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	Archibald McNeill.....	Alex. Stewart.
6	Barton.....	Hamilton.....	Second Wednesday.....	Wm. Gibson.....	H. Munroe.
7	Union.....	Grimsby.....	Thursday on or before full moon	W. E. Millward.....	John A. Nelles.
9	*Union.....	Napuaee.....	Friday on or before full moon	Benj. S. Abrams.....	Robert Irvine.
10	*Norfolk.....	Shucoc.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	James Hayes.....	Frank Gordon.
11	*Moira.....	Belleville.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	Ellis Burrell.....	John J. Farley.
14	*True Britons.....	Perth.....	First Monday.....	John G. Campbell.....	W. T. Walker.
15	*St. George's.....	St. Catharines.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	James H. Taylor.....	Samuel A. Dougan.
16	*St. Andrew's.....	Toronto.....	Second Tuesday.....	W. C. Wilkinson.....	Joseph B. Reed.
17	*St. John's.....	Colongue.....	Monday on or before full moon	H. T. Holland.....	Thurrier Kozl.
18	*Prince Edward.....	Pictou.....	Thursday on or before full moon	John M. Platt.....	D. W. Johnson.
20	*St. John's.....	London.....	Second Tuesday.....	John Wright.....	M. D. Dawson.
22	*King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	Second Thursday.....	W. J. Hanbly.....	Henry Rickford.
23	*Richmond.....	Richmond Hill.....	Monday on or before full moon	James Reynolds.....	Isaac Crosby.
25	*St. Francis.....	Smith's Falls.....	Friday on or before full moon	William Johnson.....	Stewart Moug.
26	*Ontario.....	Toronto.....	First Tuesday.....	James A. Temple.....	A. P. Maclean.
27	*Strict Observance.....	Port Hope.....	Third Tuesday.....	Charles Doebler.....	George F. Hall.
28	*Mount Zion.....	Hamilton.....	Third Thursday.....	John Hevery.....	David Kidd.
29	*United.....	Kemptville.....	Wednesday before full moon.....	Alex. McPherson.....	Isaac J. Taylor.
30	*Composite.....	Brighton.....	Thursday on or before full moon	J. B. Traves.....	W. A. Mayhew.
31	*Jerusalem.....	Whitby.....	First Thursday.....	Robert White Young.....	Robert Willis.
32	*Amity.....	Bowmanville.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	Thomas Bassett.....	F. L. McKay.
33	*Goderich.....	Dunnville.....	Wednesday on or after full moon	Eugene H. Long.....	Robert Nimmo.
34	*Thistle.....	Goderich.....	First Wednesday.....	H. H. Smith.....	Wm. Dickson.
35	*St. John's.....	Amherstburgh.....	Tuesday before full moon.....	C. W. Thomas.....	George Middleton.
36	Welland.....	Cayuga.....	Thursday on or after full moon	James Mitchell.....	Thomas Bridger.
37	*King Hiram.....	Portfrull.....	Thursday on or before full moon	Robert S. Keup.....	Edward Morris.
38	*Trent.....	Lugersoll.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	W. A. Woolson.....	C. F. Bixel.
39	*Mount Zion.....	Trenton.....	Tuesday before full moon.....	R. W. Williams.....	Isaac Nelson.
40	*St. John's.....	Brooklyn.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	W. J. Murray.....	James Walker.
41	*St. George's.....	Hamilton.....	Third Thursday.....	David Aitchison.....	Joseph Kneeshaw.
		Kingville.....	Thursday on or before full moon	E. Allworth.....	John S. Middough.

42	*St. George's.....	London.....	First Wednesday.....	of every month.....	Wm. Fleming.....	J. M. McIntosh.....
43	*King Solomon's.....	Woodstock.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		George C. Eden.....	Samuel Stepiens.....
44	*St. Thomas.....	St. Thomas.....	First Thursday.....		Duncan McLarty.....	Wm. A. Cooper.....
45	Brant.....	Brantford.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		Michael Houston.....	George Lindley.....
46	*Wellington.....	Chatham.....	First Monday.....		A. Whitaker.....	James Birch.....
47	*Great Western.....	Windsor.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....		J. S. Loonis.....	Robert Thoms.....
48	*Madoc.....	Madoc.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		J. H. Thornton.....	James O'Hara.....
49	*Consecon.....	Consecon.....	Friday on or before full moon.....		John Bell.....	Wm. Bell.....
50	*Carleton Place.....	Grahamville.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		Charles S. Scott.....	Alex. F. Campbell.....
51	Dalhousie.....	Ottawa.....	First Tuesday.....		W. A. Cook.....	Godfrey B. Green.....
52	*Vaughan.....	Maple.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		Hugh McGill.....	H. Baldwin.....
53	*Merrickville.....	Merrickville.....	Tuesday after full moon.....		John A. MacKenzie.....	R. Y. Merrick.....
54	*Victoria.....	Sarnia.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		Wm. Brown.....	Samuel Allen.....
55	*Harmony.....	Bimbrook.....	Monday after full moon.....		Wm. Kerr.....	John Brown.....
56	*Doric.....	Ottawa.....	First Wednesday.....		James Widger.....	D. P. Williams.....
57	*Acacia.....	Hamilton.....	Fourth Friday.....		H. Park.....	Richard Mackay.....
58	*St. Andrews.....	Calcutta.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....		Wm. Webb.....	H. G. Broderick.....
59	*St. John's.....	Carleton Place.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....		C. A. Sippi.....	James Coleman.....
60	*Kilwinning.....	London.....	Third Thursday.....		Wm. Brydon.....	H. A. Baxter.....
61	*Rehoboth.....	Toronto.....	First Thursday.....		D. McNaughton.....	Frederick Wright.....
62	*Durham.....	Newcastle.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		John R. Warrack.....	Daniel Allen.....
63	*St. John's.....	Ingersoll.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....		Albert Chard.....	W. W. Griffey.....
64	*Stirling.....	Galt.....	Thursday after the full moon.....		John Barbour.....	John S. Black.....
65	*St. John's.....	St. Marys.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....		A. Carnum.....	Wm. McKeuzie.....
66	*St. John's.....	St. Marys.....	First Monday.....		Daniel Collins.....	R. G. Lockhart.....
67	*St. John's.....	Maitland.....	Monday nearest full moon.....		John Ritchie.....	C. B. Lemon.....
68	*St. John's.....	Toronto.....	First Monday.....		Henry I. Finkle.....	Wm. Simpson.....
69	*Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	Second Wednesday.....		Wm. Milne.....	Ass. Hall.....
70	*Faithful Brethren.....	Lindsay.....	First Thursday.....		Wm. Forbes.....	Thomas Beall.....
71	*King Hiram.....	Tilsonburg.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....		James G. Graham.....	John Strong.....
72	*Shinco.....	Brantford.....	Thursday after the full moon.....		H. G. Mansfield.....	Wm. Strong.....
73	*Albion.....	Newbury.....	First Tuesday.....		H. G. Lindsay.....	Joseph Mills.....
74	*St. John's.....	Mount Brydges.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		John Walker.....	E. Handy.....
75	*St. John's.....	Paris.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....		A. Jamieson.....	George Taylor.....
76	*St. John's.....	Strathroy.....	Friday on or after full moon.....		D. McG. Malloch.....	John R. Clark.....
77	*Clinton.....	Clinton.....	Friday on or after full moon.....		J. B. Saunders.....	A. Worthington.....
78	*Rising Sun.....	Farnersville.....	Thursday nearest the full moon.....		Alex. Patterson.....	James H. Blackburn.....
79	*Wilson.....	Toronto.....	Third Tuesday.....		James Speight.....	N. Agnew.....
80	*Markham Union.....	Markham.....	Friday on or before full moon.....		Richard Nutter.....	James S. Wilson.....
81	*St. George's.....	Owen Sound.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....		A. H. Melville.....	John McWhirter.....
82	*King Hiram.....	Lindsay.....	Third Friday.....		John Ferguson.....	Wm. L. Russell.....
83	*Manito.....	Collingwood.....	Wednesday on or after full moon.....			W. T. Toner.....

Returns of Subordinate Lodges, as at 24th June, 1876.—(Continued.)

NO.	LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	W. MASTER.	SECRETARY.
91	*Colborne	Colborne	Friday on or before full moon.	James D. Henderson	M. Williams.
92	*Cataract	Kinston	Second Wednesday	Duncan Thompson	John K. Oliver.
93	*Northern Light	Kincardine	First Thursday	David Small	E. D. Hall.
94	*St. Mark's	Port Stanley	Second Tuesday	A. H. Newton	T. D. Brown.
95	*Bidart	Otterville	Thursday on or before full moon	William Z. Watts	E. T. Earl.
96	*Corinthian	Barrie	Thursday on or before full moon	J. P. Kidd	C. B. King.
97	*Sharon	Sharon	Tuesday on or before full moon.	James Kavanaugh	Wm. Dodels.
98	*True Blue	Albion	Friday on or before full moon.	John B. Pawtress	Thomas Fisher.
99	*Tuscan	Newmarket	Second Wednesday	J. H. Widdfield	N. J. Pearson.
100	*Valley	Dundas	Friday on or before full moon	D. McMillan	W. B. Irving.
101	*Corinthian	Peterboro'	Wednesday after full moon	H. C. Rogers	Edward H. D. Hall.
103	*Maple Leaf	St. Catharines	Thursday on or after full moon	J. E. Beeton	John Rogerson.
104	St. John's	Norwichville	Wednesday after full moon.	Harry Couzens	S. B. McKay.
105	St. Mark's	Drumboville	Thursday on or before full moon	John Campbell	M. B. Morris.
106	*Barford	Barford	Wednesday on or before full moon	F. L. Willson	A. B. McWilliams.
107	St. Paul's	Lambeth	Second Wednesday	F. W. H. C. Jarvis	L. G. Jarvis.
108	Blenheim	Drambo	Wednesday on or before full moon	S. D. Brown	Thomas Walsh.
109	Albion	Harrowsmith	Friday on or before full moon	Peter Ewart	James Cooke.
110	*Central	Prescott	First Tuesday	John Francis	A. Parker.
111	*Morpeth	Ridgeway	Second Thursday	James P. Rutherford	J. H. Smith.
112	Maitland	Goderich	Second Tuesday	Chas. E. Robertson	Richard Badeliff.
113	*Wilson	Waterford	Wednesday on or before full moon	A. McMichael	David Wilson.
114	*Hope	Port Hope	First Thursday	Frank E. Gaudrie	George Wilson.
115	*Ivy	Brensville	Tuesday on or after full moon	Robert Kemp	Wm. Malloy.
116	*Cassia	Wilder	Monday on or before full moon	G. W. Holwell	E. F. Mauley.
117	Union	Schomberg	Monday on or before full moon.	E. D. Ramsay	James S. Hughes.
118	*Maple Leaf	Bath	Monday before full moon	Wm. Belfour	John Belfour.
119	Warren	Fingal	First Tuesday	James Milligan	W. S. Morse.
120	*Doric	Brantford	Friday on or before full moon	Wm. Masterson	James P. Excell.
121	*Renfrew	Renfrew	First Friday	Thomas B. Muir	Hugh Carey.
122	*The Belleville	Belleville	First Thursday	Robert Newbery	Wm. McKeown.
123	*Cornwall	Cornwall	First Tuesday	Wm. Hill	Charles Poole.
125	*Golden Rule	Campbellsford	Tuesday on or after full moon	R. S. Bonnyensie	John Rutherford.
126	Frank	Frankfort	Monday before full moon	John Chapman	John A. Stevenson.

128	*Penbroke	First Tuesday	every month	Alex. Moffat, jr.	Thomas Leask.
129	The Rising Sun	Friday on or after full moon	"	E. Poase	H. E. Connor.
131	*St. Lawrence	Second Tuesday	"	Andrew Lindsay	John Eastwood.
132	*Lebanon Forest	Monday on or before full moon	"	Geo. A. K. McLeod	Charles Senior.
133	*St. Clair	Thursday on or before full moon	"	J. E. Harrison	A. S. Gillet.
135	Richardson	Wednesday on or before f. moon	"	F. R. Armstrong	George W. Lloyd.
136	*Pythagoras	Friday on or after full moon	"	Robert McIntosh	W. C. Jewell.
137	Lebanon	Second Tuesday	"	Geo. W. Kellond	John Boyd.
139	*Malahide	Wednesday on or after f. moon	"	T. M. Nairn	Juo. C. Weishbrod.
141	*Tudor	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	Thomas Babb	Hugh McIntyre, jr.
142	*Excelsior	Thursday on or before full moon	"	Hamilton Fowler	Wm. Carlyle.
143	*Friendly Brothers	Wednesday before full moon	"	James Stephenson	John N. Tuttle.
144	*Tecumseh	First Thursday	"	George J. Waugh	W. R. Knox.
145	*J. B. Hall	Second Thursday	"	A. R. Aylsworth	George Knowlson.
146	*Prince of Wales	Wednesday before full moon	"	Wm. Mostyn	James Mulholland.
147	Mississippi	Friday on or before full moon	"	John Walsh	Thomas Coulter.
148	*Civil Service	Second Tuesday	"	Brian Vacey	W. G. Blyth.
149	*Erie	Monday on or before full moon	"	Wm. M. Orr	Lawrence Skev.
150	*Hastings	Thursday on or before full moon	"	Chas. O. Sizer	Jonathan Blacklock.
151	The Grand River	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	W. B. Collins	James, S. Hoffman.
153	*Burns	Thursday on or before full moon	"	James Sutton	H. G. Taylor.
154	*Irving	First Friday	"	Henry Tush	W. Porte.
155	*Peterborough	Friday on or before full moon	"	John Fisher	Henry Cullen.
156	*York	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	Thomas Camm	D. Waterhouse.
157	Simpson	Thursday on or after full moon	"	James Keating	Levi S. Lewis.
158	*Alexandria	First Tuesday	"	Hugh Kelly	A. T. Moore.
159	*Goodwood	Wednesday before full moon	"	A. E. Mallory	T. B. Shillington.
161	*Percy	Monday on or before full moon	"	S. B. Simile	W. T. Wiggins.
162	Forest	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	B. H. Young	John Moffat.
164	*Star in the East	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	W. Richardson	Joseph B. Rutten.
165	*Burlington	Monday on or before full moon	"	Hugh Murray	Robert Halson.
166	*Wentworth	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	J. W. Hooker	A. G. Jones.
168	*Merritt	Thursday on or before full moon	"	Thomas Rae	James B. Baxter.
169	*Macnab	Friday on or before full moon	"	Wm. Buchanan	R. A. Campbell.
170	*Britannia	Monday on or before full moon	"	John Caselden	George Gowinlock.
171	*Prince of Wales	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	John G. Waterson	Duncan Shchar.
172	*Ayr	First Thursday	"	George Stewart	Thomas M. Anderson.
174	*Walsingham	Monday on or before full moon	"	C. H. Haight	William Ross.
175	Spartan	Second Friday	"	S. Rogers	E. Haight.
177	The Raiders	Friday on or before full moon	"	John Cameron	William Rea.
178	*Pittsville	Wednesday on or before f. moon	"	Thomas Roon	Robert J. Rouchier.
179	*Bothwell		"		George Moore.

Returns of Subordinate Lodges, as at 24th June, 1876.—(Continued.)

NO.	LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	W. MASTER.	SECRETARY.
180	*Speed	Guelph	First Tuesday	Samuel R. Moffatt.....	Joseph Minnick.
181	*Oriental	Port Burwell.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	M. G. Burwell.....	W. A. Griffin.
183	*Prince Albert.....	Port Perry.....	Friday on or before full moon...	John Rolph.....	W. M. Wilcox.
184	*Old Light.....	Lacknow	Thursday on or before full moon	Robert L. Hunter.....	Neil Smith.
185	*Emiskillen.....	York	Monday on or before full moon	Geo. B. Stevenson.....	George W. Merton.
186	*Plantagenet.....	Plantagenet.....	Monday on or before full moon...	Henry Smith.....	George Hoge.
189	*Finn's Vidue.....	Adolphustown.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	J. C. Chamberlain.....	G. F. Ashton.
190	*Belmont.....	Belmont	Friday on or before full moon...	James B. Campbell.....	George McKellar.
192	*Orillia	Orillia	Friday on or before full moon...	E. B. Alport.....	John V. Newton.
193	*Scotland	Scotland.....	Monday on or before full moon	J. W. Renwick.....	W. A. McLean.
194	*Petrolia.....	Petrolia	Second Wednesday.....	John Fraser.....	J. W. Ford.
195	*The Tuscan.....	London.....	First Friday.....	Charles Richardson.....	W. C. L. Gill
196	*Madawaska.....	Amprior.....	Thursday on or before full moon	J. E. Maynard.....	A. Gartoch.
197	*Saugeen	Walkerton.....	Second Tuesday.....	H. B. O'Connor.....	R. H. Cotter.
198	*White Oak	Oakville	Tuesday on or before full moon	John McCorkindale.....	C. W. Pearce.
200	*St. Albans	Mount Forest.....	Friday on or before full moon...	Alex. Gow.....	Wm. Colclough.
201	*Leeds	Guanuocque.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	John Orniston.....	Philip Heaslip.
203	*Irvine	Elora	Friday before full moon	W. F. Savage.....	John M. Ross.
205	*New Dominion.....	New Hamburg.....	Monday on or after full moon...	Otto Pressprich.....	Wm. Millar.
206	*North Gower	North Gower.....	First Monday	Thomas Conley.....	James Lindsay.
207	*Lancaster	Lancaster	Second Wednesday	Wm. Nicholson.....	D. MacIntyre.
209a	*St. John's	London.....	Third Thursday	Thomas H. Tracy.....	John Siddons.
209	*Evergreen	Lanark.....	First Tuesday	James M. Caldwell.....	Robert Pollock.
210	*Hawkesbury	Hawkesbury	Wednesday on or before full moon	George Munson.....	John Rigby.
212	*Elysian	Garden Island.....	First Monday.....	A. H. Malone.....	George Cummings.
213	*Dominion	Ridgeway	Wednesday on or before full moon	Alfred Hurrell.....	W. L. Allen.
214	*Craig	Ailsa Craig.....	Monday on or after full moon...	Wm. K. Atkinson.....	John W. Tibbende.
215	*Lake	Ameliasburg.....	Monday on or before full moon	W. G. Stafford.....	A. N. Sprague.
216	*Harris	Orangeville.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	A. MacGowan.....	R. W. Greig.
217	*Frederick	Delhi	Monday on or before full moon	J. C. Ross.....	Simon Hicks.
218	*Stevenson	Toronto	Second Monday	James Martin, jr.....	W. J. Hunter.
219	*Credit	Georgetown.....	Friday on or before full moon...	D. McKenzie.....	J. Butterfield.
220	*Zerzedatha.....	Uxbridge	Monday on or before full moon...	J. E. Gould.....	James J. Hilary.
221	*Mountain	Thorold	Wednesday on or before full moon	James Arnold.....	James W. McFarland.

222	*Marmora.....	Marmora.....	Tuesday before full moon.....	every month.	David Fitchett.....	John Beaddome.
223	*Norwood.....	Norwood.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	"	W. E. Roxburgh.....	B. McCann.
224	*Zurich.....	Zurich.....	Friday on or before full moon.....	"	Robert Brown.....	Michael Zeiler.
225	*Bernard.....	Lisowel.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....	"	John Nichol.....	T. G. Fennel.
226	*Prince Arthur.....	Odessa.....	Monday after full moon.....	"	Thomas K. Ross.....	A. P. Booth.
227	*Ionic.....	Brampton.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....	"	James W. Nairn.....	T. A. Agar.
228	*Kerr.....	Bel Ewart.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	"	G. W. Simpson.....	H. Belfry.
229	*Lodge of Fidelity.....	Ottawa.....	Second Wednesday.....	"	E. C. Barber.....	J. D. Fraser.
230	*Caneron.....	Wallacetown.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....	"	John Risten.....	Samuel Mathieson.
231	*Doric.....	Park Hill.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	"	Peter McGregor.....	Daniel Eccles.
232	*Beaver.....	Clarksburg.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	"	John M. Calverley.....	Charles Pyc.
233	*Aldworth.....	Palslev.....	Friday on or before full moon.....	"	Simon Roche.....	Jas. C. Gibson.
234	*Manitoba.....	Bondhead.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	"	Donald Gunn.....	Ira Doune.
235	*Vienna.....	Vienna.....	Friday on or before full moon.....	"	John H. Teall.....	John Deau.
236	*Havelock.....	Watford.....	Tuesday before full moon.....	"	D. J. Campbell.....	S. W. Hungerford.
237	*Tweed.....	Shumouville.....	Friday on or before full moon.....	"	George Easterbrook.....	Wm. Wray.
238	*Quinte.....	Escott Front.....	Tuesday after full moon.....	"	James McCance.....	D. H. Roblin.
239	*Macy.....	St. George.....	Monday on or before full moon.....	"	Norman H. Fields.....	H. J. Taylor.
240	*St. George.....	Thamesville.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	"	E. E. Kitchen.....	R. G. Laurison.
241	*Tecumseh.....	Yorkville.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....	"	James Ferguson.....	Samuel A. Tye.
242	*Ashlar.....	Pakenham.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	"	John S. Donaldson.....	H. E. F. Caston.
243	*Eureka.....	Angus.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....	"	Wm. Cunningham.....	George Hegarty.
244	*Caledonian.....	Enbro.....	Tuesday on or after full moon.....	"	John McKinnic.....	F. D. Boyes.
245	*Thistle.....	Kingston.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....	"	Henry Adams.....	J. D. Anderson.
246	*Minden.....	Clifton.....	First Monday.....	"	E. J. B. Pense.....	James Kearns.
247	*Clifton.....	Dresden.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....	"	Robert Robinson.....	John J. Guerin.
248	*Sydenham.....	Farran's Point.....	Wednesday on or after full moon.....	"	Jas. W. Sharpe.....	W. H. Switzer.
249	*Farran's Point.....	Galt.....	First Wednesday.....	"	C. A. Summers.....	Robert Brownley.
250	*Galt.....	Guelph.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	"	Alfred Taylor.....	Wm. White.
251	*Guelph.....	Springfield.....	Second Tuesday.....	"	Hugh Walker.....	W. J. Paterson.
252	*Springfield.....	Petrolia.....	Monday on or before full moon.....	"	James Newell.....	J. B. Lucas.
253	*Oak Branch.....	Harristown.....	First Tuesday.....	"	Robert M. Cooper.....	Oliver Simmons.
254	*Harristown.....	Forest.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....	"	Richard Nokes.....	Francis Warner.
255	*Forest.....	Ottawa.....	Monday on or before f. moon.....	"	Thos. Wood.....	Henry Leighton.
256	*Chaudiere.....	Thornhill.....	Wednesday on or before f. moon.....	"	P. N. Mason.....	Wm. D. Griggs.
257	*Northern Light.....	Stayner.....	First Monday.....	"	C. H. Keefer.....	W. Schofield.
258	*Parthenon.....	Chatham.....	Thursday on or before full moon.....	"	A. H. Becton.....	John C. Woods.
259	*Verulam.....	Bolcaygeon.....	First Wednesday.....	"	Wm. Young.....	Charles Dunlop.
260	*Brougham Union.....	Brougham.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	"	Charles J. Howard.....	J. H. Thompson.
261	*Cedar.....	Oshawa.....	Fourth Tuesday.....	"	Rev. W. R. Ross.....	S. F. Johnston.
262					Philip Taylor.....	C. W. Smith.

Returns of Subordinate Lodges, as at 24th June, 1876.—(Continued.)

NO.	LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	W. MASTER.	SECRETARY.
271	Wellington.....	Trin.....	Wednesday on or before full moon every month.	E. L. Barnham.....	Henry McNaughton.
272	Seymour.....	Ancaster.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	Henry Richardson.....	Edward Konrick.
273	*Kent.....	Blenheim.....	Third Monday.....	H. W. Lowes.....	Rev. H. Bartlett.
274	Teeswater.....	Port Dalhousie.....	Friday on or before full moon	H. B. O'Connor.....	John Millar.
275	*Seymour.....	Port Dalhousie.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	Robert Patterson.....	E. F. Dwyer.
276	Mystic.....	Roslin.....	Thursday before full moon.....	A. C. Hurd.....	W. McD Cook.
277	New Hope.....	Hesper.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	A. B. Jardine.....	John A. Shaw.
278	Mount Sinai.....	Napance.....	First Thursday.....	James Ferguson.....	Henry W. Perry.
279	*Thorne.....	Holland Land.....	First Tuesday.....	Wm. H. Thorne.....	Oliver Lloyd.
280	Lorne.....	Glencoe.....	Thursday on or before full moon	Wm. G. Lunney.....	Stephen Blackburn
281	*Eureka.....	Belleville.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	W. L. Hamilton.....	J. A. G. Crozier.
282	*St. John's.....	Brussels.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	John Shaw.....	J. Leckie.
283	Seven Star.....	Alliston.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	Wm. Wright.....	Wm. Elliott.
284	*Wingham.....	Wingham.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	John Ritchie.....	S. G. Cox.
285	*Shuniah.....	Pr. Arthur's Lig.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	W. C. Dobie.....	R. E. Mitchell.
286	*Doric.....	Lobo.....	Thursday on or before full moon	R. T. Powell.....	Joshua Irvine.
287	*Leamington.....	Lennington.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	J. E. Johnson.....	H. J. Coulson.
288	*Dufferin.....	W. Lambore.....	Thursday on or before full moon	Chris. Fry.....	John A. Stutt.
289	*Robertson.....	Nobleton.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	J. D. Stephenson.....	John N. Byers.
290	*The Royal Sol Mother.....	Jensulken Pul.....	First Wednesday.....	Peter Bergheim.....	Edward Unger.
291	*Moore.....	Mooretown.....	Thursday on or before full moon	George Leslie.....	Robert Armour.
292	*Conestogo.....	Drayton.....	Tuesday on or after full moon.....	L. McKellar.....	S. P. Ennes.
293	*Temple.....	St. Catharines.....	First Wednesday.....	John Reid.....	James J. Hignnan.
294	Preston.....	Preston.....	Friday on or before full moon.....	Nelson Mulloy.....	George Krutzner.
295	Victoria.....	Centreville.....	Thursday on or before full moon	M. J. Beeman.....	M. B. Hawley.
296	*Mount Olivet.....	Thorndale.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	W. H. Dunlop.....	E. Fitzgerald.
297	*Hanover.....	Hanover.....	Monday on or before full moon.....	Henry P. Adams.....	John McT Kerr.
298	St. David's.....	St. Thomas.....	Monday on or before full moon.....	John Waddell.....	George Collis.
299	*Blyth.....	Blyth.....	Second Wednesday.....	Charles Hamilton.....	J. A. Anderson.
300	*Minerva.....	Victoria.....	Tuesday on or after full moon.....	Albert M. Morden.....	W. H. Mulholland.
301	*Humber.....	Weston.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	John F. Lash.....	Thomas Smith.
302	Durham.....	Durham.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	Archibald Davidson.....	George Russell.
303	*Arkona.....	Arkona.....	Thursday on or before full moon	Jacob Holmes.....	George M. Everest.
304	*Grafton.....	Grafton.....	Tuesday on or before full moon	Francis J. Drake.....	Henry Lawless.

309	*Morning Star	Smith's Hill	Second Wednesday	every month	Wm. J. Harris	Robert B. Scott,
310	*Enterprise	Beachburg	First Tuesday	"	Robert Allen	Thomas E. Thwaites,
311	*Blackwood	Woodbridge	Friday on or before full moon	"	M. S. Burkholder	W. C. Reaman,
312	*Pnyx	Wallaceburg	Monday on or before full moon	"	Harvey Morris	F. J. Sawyer,
313	*Cleimanti	Lakefield	Tuesday after full moon	"	John Dinwoodie	John Hull,
314	*Blair	Palmerston	Friday after full moon	"	Alex. Stewart	John McBain,
315	*Clifford	Chiford	Third Monday	"	George Taylor	James D. Allan,
316	*Doric	Toronto	Second Wednesday	"	R. P. Stephens	Charles Callighen,
317	*The Hiram	Dundas	Second Tuesday	"	H. C. Gwyn	J. S. Baillie,
318	*Wilnot	Baden	Friday on or after full moon	"	Philip Erbach	Robert O. Doblin,
319	*Hiram	Cheapside	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	George Sherck	Wm. L. Tyrrell,
320	*Chesterville	Chesterville	Monday on or before full moon	"	Wm. W. French	J. G. Gillespie,
321	*Walker	Acton West	Monday on or before full moon	"	Caleb Chase	John Ross,
322	*North Star	Owen Sound	Wednesday after full moon	"	John Creaser, Jr.	H. Robinson,
323	*Alvinston	Alvinston	Tuesday on or after full moon	"	John H. Black	T. A. Cahill,
324	*Temple	Hamilton	Fourth Monday	"	J. M. Gibson	C. Lenon,
325	*Orono	Orono	Thursday on or before full moon	"	W. S. Griffin	W. R. Cummings,
326	*Zetland	Toronto	Fourth Friday	"	R. J. Hovenden	H. M. Graham,
327	*The Hammond	Wardsville	Third Tuesday	"	Ebenezer Aitcheson	P. C. Campbell,
328	*Ionic	Napier	Friday on or before full moon	"	N. J. Lindsay	P. A. Sinclair,
329	*King Solomon	Jarvis	Friday on or before full moon	"	J. A. Hoshul	John Heasman,
330	*Corinthian	London East	First Tuesday	"	Andrew M. Ross	Wm. D. Eckert,
331	*Fordwich	Fordwich	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	Stephen Brown	James Foster,
332	*Stratford	Stratford	Second Monday	"	Charles Packert	W. G. Mowat,
333	*Prince Arthur	Flesherton	Friday on or after full moon	"	M. Richardson	J. C. Griffiths,
334	*Prince Arthur	Arthur	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	Alexander Fraser	John Anderson,
335	*Langton	Langton	Monday on or before full moon	"	Richard W. Cuncer	J. W. Husband,
336	*Highgate	Highgate	First Thursday	"	Wm. Henry Watson	Oren Vanderlinden,
337	*Myrtle	Port Robinson	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	Wm. H. Bell	C. B. Rennett,
338	*Duferin	Welland Port	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	John S. McCallum	John C. Gracey,
339	*Orient	Don Mount	First Tuesday	"	Joshua G. Burns	Henry G. Copas,
340	*St. John's	Pittsburg	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	Rev. John Gallaher	Alexander Adams,
341	*Bruce	Tiverton	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	Donald W. McDonald	
342	*Hiram	Wolfe Island	First Tuesday	"	W. H. Gdwin	Hiram O. Hitchcock,
343	*Georgina	Sutton	Thursday on or before full moon	"	Alex. Williams	Robert Price,
344	*Merrill	Dorchester Stn	Thursday on or before full moon	"	Freeman B. Talbot	Rev. F. W. Raikes,
345	*Nilestown	Nilestown	Tuesday on or before full moon	"	James Campbell	
346	*Occident	Toronto	First Wednesday	"	James Wilson	John Linton,
347	*Mercer	Fergus	Thursday after full moon	"	John MacDonald	Harry Vincent,
348	*Georgian	Penetang sne	First Wednesday	"	Andrew Miscampbell	F. W. Jeffery,
	*Elgin	St. Thomas	First Tuesday	"	Henry G. Hunt	

SUSPENSIONS.

For being in sympathy and communication with the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario.

- No. 6. *Barton Lodge, Hamilton.*
Rev. O. G. Collamore.
- No. 20. *St. John's Lodge, London.*
George Wrigley, George Jackson.
- No. 37. *King Hiram Lodge, Ingersoll.*
Samuel C. Hersey, T. H. McConnell.
- No. 42. *St. George's Lodge, London.*
Francis Westlake.
- No. 64. *Kilwinning Lodge, London.*
J. H. Ley, W. W. Fitzgerald, Wm. H. Street, J. R. Peel, P. Grant, C. A. Conover, G. M. Beecher, E. K. Slater, J. W. Jones, George Gray.
- No. 66. *Durham Lodge, Newcastle.*
S. P. Groat.
- No. 68. *St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll.*
Thomas Hossack.
- No. 73. *St. James Lodge, St. Marys.*
Edward Mara, James J. Hall, Joseph Iredale.
- No. 80. *Albion Lodge, Newbury.*
Wm. D. McGloghlon.
- No. 86. *Wilson Lodge, Toronto.*
Mark Solomon.
- No. 94. *St. Mark's Lodge, Port Stanley.*
James F. Latimer.
- No. 154. *Irving Lodge, Lucan.*
James D. McCosh, Donald J. McCosh.
- No. 171. *Prince of Wales Lodge, Iona.*
Alex. A. Boston, Charles W. Graham.
- No. 176. *Spartan Lodge, Sparta.*
Wm. T. Edge, Wm. W. Oakes.
- No. 179. *Bothwell Lodge, Bothwell.*
Wm. D. McGloghlon, Miles A. Wright.
- No. 209a. *St. John's Lodge, London.*
Daniel M. Bowman.

No. 245. *Tecumseh Lodge, Thamesville.*

Wm. L. Judson.

No. 247. *Ashlar Lodge, Yorkville.*

Thomas Anderson.

No. 259. *Springfield Lodge, Springfield.*

G. W. H. Davis.

No. 302. *St. David's Lodge, St. Thomas.*

Wm. E. Smith.

Eden Lodge, late U. D.

Thomas R. Barton, Oliver J. Bridle, D. M. J. Hagarty, George T. Hiscox, Thomas Minton, Joseph B. Sabine, Peter Smith, Daniel Turner.

and

Lawrence Cohen, of Toronto, Antiquity Lodge, Montreal.

OTHER SUSPENSIONS.—U. M. C.

No. 16. *St. Andrew's Lodge, Toronto.*

W. H. Briggs.

No. 103. *Maple Leaf Lodge, St Catharines.*

James H. Lambert.

No. 105. *St. Mark's Lodge, Drummondville.*

Samuel Morse.

No. 111. *Morpeth Lodge, Ridgetown.*

D. Adams.

No. 121. *Doric Lodge, Brantford.*

W. M. Codling.

No. 133. *Lebanon Forest Lodge, Exeter.*

Wm. G. Smalacombe.

No. 147. *Mississippi Lodge, Ahmonte.*

O. E. Henderson.

No. 154. *Irving Lodge, Lucan.*

Thomas Cavanagh.

No. 169. *Macnab Lodge, Port Colborne.*

M. Richardson.

No. 183. *Prince Albert Lodge, Port Perry.*

L. H. Harnden.

No. 195. *Tuscan Lodge, London.*

Edward D. La Hooke.

- No. 209. *Evergreen Lodge, Lanark.*
James Jackson, Duncan McDiarmid.
- No. 213. *Dominion Lodge, Ridgeway.*
Wm. Atkinson.
- No. 261. *Oak Branch Lodge, Innerkip.*
Thomas Johnston.
- No. 267. *Parthenon Lodge, Chatham.*
A. W. Browne.
- No. 271. *Wellington Lodge, Erin.*
R. D. Boomer.
- No. 287. *Shuniah Lodge, Prince Arthur's Landing.*
John M. Macdonald.
- No. 290. *Leamington Lodge, Leamington.*
J. M. Stockwell.
- No. 322. *North Star Lodge, Owen Sound.*
Wm. Cole.

SUSPENSIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

- No. 7. *Union Lodge, Grimsby.*
T. F. Brownjohn, James O. Henry, J. E. Russ, S. W. Spillette,
Robert Sheppard, John H. Walker, W. H. Tanner.
- No. 9. *Union Lodge, Napanee.*
J. S. Fretts, John Beggs, D. Nichols, G. F. Fraleck, Thomas
Wilson, T. Rowland.
- No. 14. *True Britons' Lodge, Perth.*
F. Lane, G. Motherwell, James Dick, John McGregor, Chas.
B. Taylor.
- No. 18. *Prince Edward Lodge, Picton.*
M. Lazier, Samuel Skinner, John Twigg, Wm Booth, N. B.
Conger, D. S. Conger, W. M. Conger.
- No. 22. *King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto.*
Thos. Wrong, George Martinge, J. B. Cartwright, Thomas
Palmer, Joseph Marshall, D. Lawrence, J. M. Girvin, James
Bennett, J. Crocken, W. A. Stollery, John S. Diamond, J. T.
Jewel, J. Millburn.
- No. 23. *Richmond Lodge, Richmond Hill.*
Charles Powell, James McMaster.
- No. 24. *St. Francis Lodge, Smith's Falls.*
Robert Walker.

- No. 25. *Ionic Lodge, Toronto.*
Rev. D. F. Hutchinson.
- No. 26. *Ontario Lodge, Port Hope.*
Job Dickinson, H. F. McMullin.
- No. 27. *Strict Observance Lodge, Hamilton.*
T. Lawrence, W. S. Auld, H. G. Charlesworth, A. Binney,
F. W. Forbes, J. L. Henderson, J. W. Healey, A. B. Mac-
Donald, Charles J. Kissman.
- No. 30. *Composite Lodge, Whitby.*
R. J. Willson.
- No. 31. *Jerusalem Lodge, Bowmanville.*
Thomas Johnston, Joseph Maynard, George Tait, A. Keith,
Wm. Perie, John McDougall.
- No. 32. *Amity Lodge, Dunnville.*
Archibald Galbraith, Charles May, Thomas Q. Hamilton,
James Gordon.
- No. 37. *King Hiram Lodge, Ingersoll.*
W. G. Wonham, J. R. Walker, E. D. Lewis, F. A. Baker,
G. E. Harris, R. A. Janes.
- No. 40. *St. John's Lodge, Hamilton.*
George Conquest, J. H. Jones, Thomas Hill, John Johnstone,
E. R. E. Carpenter.
- No. 43. *King Solomon's Lodge, Woodstock.*
Joseph Anderson, Joseph Cherry, J. A. Kipp, W. A. Manson,
G. Matheson, A. McKay, H. McCauley, George McKay, W. J.
McCausland, S. Kipp.
- No. 46. *Wellington Lodge, Chatham.*
A. T. Crowe, George McColl, James McGregor, F. J. Sawyer,
D. Sickelsteel, J. G. Winter.
- No. 47. *Great Western Lodge, Windsor.*
Thomas McKee.
- No. 48. *Madoc Lodge, Madoc.*
Charles Cream.
- No. 52. *Dalhousie Lodge, Ottawa.*
W. A. Annable, J. T. Bartram, C. W. Bangs, George Clarke,
W. H. Falls, S. H. Haycock, Wm. Hay, J. M. T. Hannum,
R. Hinman, D. Hainingway, W. C. Kendall, Wm. McNaughton,
E. W. Murray, George Newell, A. Parsons, A. Proudfoot, C.
Ryan, T. P. Stiff, P. A. Taylor, E. Wright, A. Washburn,
C. Madsen.

- No. 57. *Harmony Lodge, Binbrook.*
George W. Johnson.
- No. 58. *Doric Lodge, Ottawa.*
J. P. Featherstone, Charles Routh, Wm. Stockdale, W. P. Bonsall, W. J. Featherstone, Wm. Grier, W. Johnston, John Peacock, George J. Sutherland.
- No. 64. *Kilwinning Lodge, London.*
W. H. Elson, George Dodd, James Smith, H. S. Matheson, John Woods, Donald Campbell.
- No. 66. *Durham Lodge, Newcastle.*
John E. Chester, J. R. Fuller.
- No. 76. *Oxford Lodge, Woodstock.*
A. G. Shaw, J. Martin, S. Steabler.
- No. 77. *Faithful Brethren Lodge, Lindsay.*
Henry Reazin, C. S. Jewett, W. E. Everest, John Ross, Jas. Kirkland, John Stevens, John Webster.
- No. 78. *King Hiram Lodge, Tilsonburg.*
J. Wheeler, James McRoberts, E. Kole, W. Moulton, E. D. Bodwell, G. Eaton, A. Shaver, G. T. Vannorman, E. Burgess.
- No. 79. *Simcoe Lodge, Bradford.*
M. Scanlon, James McCallum, John McBeath, George A. Travis.
- No. 81. *St. John's Lodge, Mount Brydges.*
Ephriam Nash, Donald A. Campbell, Albert Woolway, Wm. H. Wallace, James Coulter.
- No. 82. *St. John's Lodge, Paris.*
Henry Bartlett, James Chisholm, John England, J. B. Hawley, Henry Penton, John A. Powell.
- No. 83. *Beaver Lodge, Strathroy.*
R. B. Orr.
- No. 86. *Wilson Lodge, Toronto.*
Wm. Forsyth, E. Hastings, J. C. Miller, R. Cruickshank, J. Ellis, C. Punchard, J. Ross, G. Gilchrist.
- No. 87. *Markham Union Lodge, Markham.*
P. McDermott, J. G. Munns, R. Macklin.
- No. 88. *St. George's Lodge, Owen Sound.*
W. G. Summer, H. P. Henning, J. Redfern.
- No. 90. *Manito Lodge Collingwood.*
James A. Sutherland, Wm. R. Scott, John Maguire, John O. Smith, J. H. Roberts, Arthur Moberly.

- No. 91. *Colborne Lodge, Colborne.*
D. Petitt, S. Chapin, R. P. Niles.
- No. 92. *Cataraqui Lodge, Kingston.*
George Cox, Isaac Price, F. Stevenson, P. Sweeney, G. Smith,
Alex. Mackenzie, George Black.
- No. 94. *St. Mark's Lodge, Port Stanley.*
Thomas Robinson.
- No. 95. *Ridout Lodge, Otterville.*
D. Hyndman.
- No. 96. *Corinthian Lodge, Barrie.*
E. S. Meeking, J. Clarke, N. King, W. H. Wilson, James
Wiseman, Wm. Burr.
- No. 97. *Sharon Lodge, Sharon.*
C. McArthur, John Callaghan, Rolland Bell.
- No. 98. *True Blue Lodge, Albion.*
James Roberts, Hiram Johns, James B. Hall, James McFall,
John Gilmour.
- No. 100. *Valley Lodge, Dundas.*
Wm. McFedres, R. Bell, J. F. C. Halden, J. B. Haines.
- No. 101. *Corinthian Lodge, Peterboro'*
Alex. Smith, George Caldbeck, G. S. Givin, James Wood.
- No. 103. *Maple Leaf Lodge, St. Catharines.*
R. H. McMullen.
- No. 105. *St. Mark's Lodge, Drummondville.*
H. Bender, Thomas Barnett.
- No. 106. *Burford Lodge, Burford.*
W. B. Underhill, Crossby Tennant, James W. Shellington.
- No. 107. *St. Paul's Lodge, Lambeth.*
Charles Hagar, James Ash, Humphrey V. Clark, James
Beattie, Wm. Jackson, Eli L. Davis.
- No. 109. *Albion Lodge, Harrowsmith.*
Daniel Ash.
- No. 110. *Central Lodge, Prescott.*
O. S. Tenny, A. Glasgow, G. Kennedy, G. Twomley, C. Daly
John Harding.
- No. 111. *Morpeth Lodge, Ridgelytown.*
H. D. Cunningham, W. R. Fellows.
- No. 113. *Wilson Lodge, Waterford.*
D. Rusling, N. Birdsell, J. W. Squires,

- No. 114. *Hope Lodge, Port Hope.*
Robert L. Walton.
- No. 118. *Union Lodge, Schomberg.*
H. J. Rogers, Alexander McMinn.
- No. 119. *Maple Leaf Lodge, Bath.*
J. J. Johnston, H. T. Clute, Allen Lewis, D. McBride,
Robert Johnston.
- No. 125. *Cornwall Lodge, Cornwall.*
J. H. Abbott, M. Jones, D. A. Macdonald, J. B. McKenzie,
P. D. McMartin, George Pocock.
- No. 126. *Golden Rule Lodge, Campbellsford.*
J. McLeod, M. J. Parker, George Mitchell, H. Barwick, J. B.
Bogart, A. H. Kendle, G. W. Abbott.
- No. 133. *Lebanon Forest Lodge, Exeter.*
James Gordon, John McArthur.
- No. 135. *St. Clair Lodge, Milton.*
Hugh McMillan.
- No. 140. *Malahide Lodge, Aylmer.*
J. G. Medcalf, J. C. Benbow.
- No. 144. *Tecumseh Lodge, Stratford.*
Thomas Rodgers, Dr. Oronhyatekha.
- No. 146. *Prince of Wales Lodge, Newburg.*
John Wheelan, John Sherman.
- No. 147. *Mississippi Lodge, Almonte.*
L. C. Northrup, J. B. Boyce,
- No. 148. *Civil Service Lodge, Ottawa.*
P. Vankoughnet, J. F. Wolff.
- No. 149. *Erie Lodge, Port Dover.*
J. V. Hoover, S. Hoover.
- No. 150. *Hastings Lodge, Hastings.*
Isaac Toms.
- No. 157. *Simpson Lodge, Newboro'*
F. A. Cameron, John Bracken.
- No. 161. *Percy Lodge Warkworth.*
Wm. Stone, A. Maybee, James H. Holmes, J. B. Stone.
- No. 162. *Forest Lodge Wroxeter.*
James Stretton.

- No. 171. *Prince of Wales Lodge, Iona.*
Wm. McGeachy, D. H. McIntyre.
- No. 172. *Ayr Lodge, Ayr.*
James Allen, Wm. Thompson.
- No. 176. *Spartan Lodge, Sparta.*
G. H. Dean, Edward Meek, G. A. Stephenson.
- No. 177. *The Builders Lodge, Ottawa.*
J. E. Attwood, S. Gouldthrite, Gustav Levin, Wm. Young,
J. Dimpleby, J. S. Nesbitt.
- No. 178. *Plattsville Lodge, Plattsville.*
John Barnett.
- No. 179. *Bothwell Lodge, Bothwell.*
J. C. Colver, Alex. Miller.
- No. 180. *Speed Lodge, Guelph.*
John Hazle.
- No. 181. *Oriental Lodge, Port Burwell.*
Thomas Arnold, George Turner, Daniel Freeman.
- No. 184. *Old Light Lodge, Lucknow.*
P. G. White, Charles McLean, John McKenzie, Farq. Stewart,
Gregor McLean, A. McDonald.
- No. 185. *Enniskillen Lodge, York.*
John Dennes, Wm. Donaldson.
- No. 192. *Orillia Lodge, Orillia.*
Duncan McNabb, R. H. Harris, Joseph Slaukter, Thomas
Davey, Robert Ramsay.
- No. 193. *Scotland Lodge, Scotland.*
Thomas S. Burgess, D. Shelly, Philip Slaght, Paul Huffman,
A. H. Chamberlin, James Robertson, Elijah Gray, Thomas
O. Prouse.
- No. 203. *Irvine Lodge, Elora.*
W. G. Livingston, D. McDonald, John Dean, Wm. Barnes.
- No. 209a. *St. John's Lodge, London.*
John Phillips, Robert Smith, Wm. W. Gray, James Oliver,
Minor Emmon.
- No. 213. *Dominion Lodge, Ridgeway.*
N. E. Benner, F. Heckendon, J. P. Fields, B. F. Mathews,
J. W. W. Morgan, Lewis House.
- No. 215. *Ivy Lodge, Beamsville.*
M. A. Johnston.

- No. 216. *Harris Lodge, Orangeville.*
D. Milloy, J. R. Reid, J. K. Riddell, T. McAdam, James Still,
H. Currie.
- No. 220. *Zeredatha Lodge, Uxbridge.*
M. P. Sickles.
- No. 224. *Zurich Lodge, Zurich.*
Henry A. Dietz.
- No. 228. *Prince Arthur Lodge, Odessa.*
John Gardiner.
- No. 231. *Fidelity Lodge, Ottawa.*
W. E. Johnston, S. Jeffries, E. Miles, A. W. Wall.
- No. 234. *Beaver Lodge, Clarksburg.*
E. Dickenson, J. D. Casey, Joseph Murdy, Thomas W. Hinds.
- No. 236. *Manitoba Lodge, Bondhead.*
James Coulson.
- No. 237. *Vienna Lodge, Vienna.*
M. M. Putman, James Lambert, Wm. B. McConnell.
- No. 241. *Quinte Lodge, Shannonsville.*
Wm. Lazier, Alex. McLaren.
- No. 245. *Tecumseh Lodge, Thamesville.*
G. W. Dutton.
- No. 249. *Caledonian Lodge, Angus.*
H. J. Beyer.
- No. 253. *Minden Lodge, Kingston.*
H. J. Rollinson.
- No. 255. *Sydenham Lodge, Dresden.*
Robert McWha, Charles Scoman.
- No. 257. *Galt Lodge, Galt.*
Thomas Simons, James R. Scfinger, Thomas Stewart, Jno.
H. Miller, Robert McLeish.
- No. 259. *Springfield Lodge, Springfield.*
George Chumas, Jacob M. Westover.
- No. 261. *Chaudiere Lodge, Ottawa.*
E. Lewers, W. A. Amable, R. J. Elliott.
- No. 267. *Parthenon Lodge, Chatham.*
Charles Northwood, J. B. Stringer.

- No. 268. *Merritt Lodge, Welland.*
J. T. Petty, James Lambert, Samuel Newman, A. Elliott.
- No. 269. *Brougham Union Lodge, Brougham.*
Thomas Middough, John H. Smith.
- No. 272. *Seymour Lodge, Ancaster.*
J. E. Rymall, George Russell.
- No. 277. *Seymour Lodge, Port Dalhousie.*
Thomas Noble, Henry Bald.
- No. 278. *Mystic Lodge, Roslin.*
James Machar.
- No. 280. *Mount Sinai Lodge, Napanee.*
D. Andrews, S. G. Stone.
- No. 290. *Leamington Lodge, Leamington.*
James McQueen.
- No. 292. *Robertson Lodge, Nobleton.*
Abraham Shunk.
- No. 307. *Arkona Lodge, Arkona.*
John B. Davis.
- No. 311. *Blackwood Lodge, Woodbridge.*
A. Wilson, H. Seymour.
- No. 320. *Chesterville Lodge, Chesterville.*
Wm. A. Fitchett.

EXPULSIONS BY GRAND LODGE.

Brethren expelled for being in connection and sympathy with the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario.

1 Anderson, Thomas	Toronto,	M. M. Ashlar Lodge, 247.
2 Barton, Thos. R.	London,	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
3 Beecher, George M.	"	M. M. Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
4 Bridle, Oliver J.	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
5 Boston, Alex. A.	"	M. M. Prince of Wales Lodge, 171.
6 Bowman, Daniel M.	"	" St. John's Lodge, 209a.
7 Cohen, Lawrence	Toronto,	P. M. Antiquity Lodge, Montreal.
8 Conover, Charles A.	London,	W. M. Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
9 Davis, G. W. H.	St. Thomas,	M. M. Springfield Lodge, 259.
10 Edge, William T.	London,	" Spartan Lodge, 176.
11 Fitzgerald, Wm. W.	"	" Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
12 Grant, Peter	"	" " "
13 Groat, Stillman P.	"	" (late of) Durham Lodge, 66.
14 Hagarty, D. M. J.	"	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.
15 Hall, James J.	St. Marys,	M. M. St. James Lodge, 73.
16 Hersey, Samuel C.	Lucan,	" King Hiram Lodge, 37.
17 Hiseox, George T.	London,	E. A. Eden Lodge, late U. D.

18	Hossack, Thomas,	Lucan,	M. M.	St. John's Lodge, 68.
19	Iredale, Joseph	St Marys,	"	St. James Lodge, 73.
20	Jackson, George	London,	"	(late of) St. John's Lodge, 20.
21	Jones, Joseph W.	"	"	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
22	Judson, William L.	"	"	Tecumseh Lodge, 245.
23	Latimer, James F.	"	"	St. Mark's Lodge, 94.
24	Ley, John H.	"	"	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
25	McCosh, Donald J.	Lucan,	"	Irving Lodge, 154.
26	McCosh, James D.	"	"	"
27	McConnell, T. H.	London,	"	King Hiram Lodge, 37.
28	McGlohon, Wm. D.	"	P. M.	Albion Lodge, 80.
29	Mara, Edward	Lucan,	M. M.	St. James Lodge, 73.
30	Meek, Edward	Toronto,	"	"
31	Minton, Thomas	London,	E. A.	Eden Lodge, late U. D.
32	Oakes, William W.	St. Thomas,	M. M.	(late of) Spartan Lodge, 176.
33	Peel, John R.	London,	P. M.	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
34	Sabine, Joseph B.	"	E. A.	Eden Lodge, late U. D.
35	Slater, Edward K.	"	M. M.	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
36	Smith, Peter	"	E. A.	Eden Lodge, late U. D.
37	Smith, William E.	St. Thomas,	M. M.	St. David's Lodge, 302.
38	Solomon, Mark	Toronto,	"	Wilson Lodge, 86.
39	Street, William H.	London,	"	Kilwinning Lodge, 64.
40	Turner, Daniel	"	E. A.	Eden Lodge, late U. D.
41	Westlake, Francis	"	P. M.	St. George's Lodge, 42.
42	Wrigley, George	"	M. M.	St. John's Lodge, 20.

OTHER EXPULSIONS BY GRAND LODGE.

- 1 Cavanagh, Thomas M. M. Irving Lodge, 154.
 2 Codling, W. M. " Doric Lodge. 121.

RESTORATIONS.

- No. 2. *Niagara Lodge, Niagara.*
 Alpheus Cox.
 No. 3. *The Ancient St. John's Lodge, Kingston.*
 Arnold Shuman.
 No. 6. *Barton Lodge, Hamilton.*
 J. B. Mathews.
 No. 7. *Union Lodge, Grimsby.*
 James O. Henry.
 No. 14. *True Britons' Lodge, Perth.*
 W. J. Pink.
 No. 17. *St. John's Lodge, Cobourg.*
 H. B. Cruss.
 No. 25. *Ionic Lodge, Toronto.*
 Thomas A. Milne.

- No. 29. *United Lodge, Brighton.*
James Stanley.
- No. 32. *Amity Lodge, Dunnville.*
John C. Allair.
- No. 36. *Welland Lodge, Fonthill.*
Wm. Carl.
- No. 40. *St. John's Lodge, Hamilton.*
Brock G. Kelly, George Congnest.
- No. 42. *St. George's Lodge, London.*
Thomas W. Harrison.
- No. 44. *St. Thomas Lodge, St. Thomas.*
Wm. J. White.
- No. 45. *Brant Lodge, Brantford.*
Robert A. Duncan.
- No. 47. *Great Western Lodge, Windsor.*
Charles Devlin.
- No. 62. *St. Andrews Lodge, Caledonia.*
Samuel Patterson, Wm. Ryan.
- No. 72. *Alma Lodge, Galt.*
Thomas S. Fisher.
- No. 75. *St. John's Lodge, Toronto.*
Alex. Dixon.
- No. 83. *Beaver Lodge, Strathroy.*
John A. Campbell.
- No. 87. *Markham Union Lodge, Markham.*
S. Eckarett, W. W. Britton, David Gilchrist.
- No. 91. *Colborne Lodge, Colborne.*
James Blacklock, Edgar Wait.
- No. 92. *Cataraqui Lodge, Kingston.*
Samuel Black.
- No. 99. *Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket.*
Jesse Peckham.
- No. 103. *Maple Leaf Lodge, St. Catharines.*
R. H. McMullin.
- No. 107. *St. Paul's Lodge, Lambeth.*
William Scott.

- No. 129. *The Rising Sun Lodge, Aurora.*
George A. F. Charlwood.
- No. 133. *Lebanon Forest Lodge, Exeter.*
Robert Mills.
- No. 136. *Richardson Lodge, Stouffville.*
Thomas Frisby, E. M. Miller.
- No. 144. *Tecumseh Lodge, Stratford.*
A. J. B. McDonald.
- No. 147. *Mississippi Lodge, Almonte.*
H. M. Wright.
- No. 149. *Eric Lodge, Port Huron.*
Moses Silvertield.
- No. 151. *The Grand River Lodge, Berlin.*
John Hough.
- No. 158. *Alexandra Lodge, Oil Springs.*
Alex. A. McKenzie, Hugh Currie, Joseph Thompson.
- No. 168. *Merritt Lodge, Welland.*
Hugh Russell.
- No. 177. *The Builders Lodge, Ottawa.*
David Russell.
- No. 192. *Orillia Lodge, Orillia.*
H. McK. Sutherland, J. Humma.
- No. 193. *The Tuscan Lodge, London.*
Philander Slaght.
- No. 209a *St. John's Lodge, London.*
Samuel Thompson, R. Stevenson, John McGregor,
William Bell.
- No. 222. *Marmora Lodge, Marmora.*
James Nichol.
- No. 247. *Ashlar Lodge, Yorkville.*
John S. Henderson.
- No. 253. *Minden Lodge, Kingston.*
William A. Donald.
- No. 284. *St. John's Lodge, Brussels.*
William Vanstone.

AT REST.

NAMES.	NO. OF LODGE.	DATE.
W. P. Phillips.....		September 1.....1875
John L. Macdonald.....	3 Ancient St. John's	March 11.....1876
James Fisher.....		March 6.....1876
H. T. Aherns.....		July 10.....1875
Donald McKay.....	6 Barton.....	October 21.....1875
L. F. Crawford.....		.....1875
F. H. Briemner.....		January 7.....1876
W. C. Sharp.....	9 Union.....	December 31.....1875
John T. Holman.....	17 St. John's.....	June 18.....1876
William Sweeney.....		July 14.....1875
James Mulholland.....	18 Prince Edward's.....	December 1.....1875
Alex. Paterson.....		.....1875
R. Booth.....	20 St. John's.....	April 16.....1876
Benjamin Hills.....	22 King Solomon's.....	October 27.....1875
Samuel Smith.....		April 21.....1876
Henry J. Boulton.....	25 Ionic.....	.....1875
T. W. Hastings.....	26 Ontario.....	November 1.....1875
Ormond Skinner.....	27 Strict Oboervance.....	November 22.....1875
Wm. McGregor.....	28 Mount Zion.....	December 17.....1875
D. Jackson.....		December 27.....1875
Henry Reed.....	31 Jerusalem.....	November 26.....1875
Jabez Ansden.....	32 Amity.....	March 18.....1876
Wm. Fry.....		March 29.....1876
Wm. M. White.....	33 Goderich.....	March 7.....1876
Thomas Messenger.....		August 13.....1875
Edward Champion.....	35 St. John's.....	August 2.....1876
George B. Rousseau.....	37 King Hiram.....	November 28.....1875
David Roblin.....	38 Trent.....	June.....1875
Alex. Rutherford.....		May 18.....1875
John Foster.....	40 St. John's.....	July 23.....1875
Wm. Beatty.....		March 4.....1876
George F. Lucas.....		May 26.....1876
Charles Griener.....	41 St. George's.....	July 22.....1875
A. Marlatt.....	45 Brant.....	June 30.....1875
Thomas Spencer.....		September 22.....1875
John B. Hulbert.....	46 Wellington.....	September 27.....1875
H. P. McDonough.....	47 Great Western.....	October 21.....1875
Thomas A. Fairman.....	50 Consecon.....	March 29.....1876
John K. Forsyth.....	56 Victoria.....	September 24.....1875
Alex. Simpson.....	57 Harmony.....	February 19.....1875
Thomas Messenger.....		August 13.....1875
Wm. McPherson.....	62 St. Andrew's.....	January 2.....1876
Daniel F. Clark.....		February 11.....1876
M. F. Morgan.....		July 25.....1875
J. E. Baker.....	64 Kilwinning.....	August 14.....1875
Wm. J. Scott.....		September.....1875
Joseph M. Davidson.....	65 Rehoboth.....	February 13.....1875
A. N. McBrien.....	66 Durham.....	August.....1875
John Galliford.....		November 3.....1875
John S. Garnett.....	68 St. John's.....	January 27.....1876
John Dines.....	72 Ahna.....	October 21.....1875
James Kirkpatrick.....		January 25.....1876
John Eastwood, jr.....	75 St. John's.....	March 31.....1876
A. H. Hunter.....	78 King Hiram.....	January 31.....1875
J. C. Forsyth.....	82 St. John's.....	October 19.....1875
Wm. Long.....	83 Beaver.....	February 8.....1875
Wm. Allingham.....		November.....1875
Joseph Parker.....	86 Wilson.....	June.....1875
Thomas R. Armstrong.....	87 Markham.....	June 1.....1876
A. N. Scott.....	92 Cataragui.....	August 25.....1875
Richard Town.....		June 14.....1876
John Barnhart.....		June 29.....1875
J. J. Moore.....	97 Sharon.....	September 13.....1875
Aaron Rogers.....		May 18.....1875

AT REST.

NAMES.	NO. OF LODGE.	DATE.
Thomas W. Bishop.....	99 Tuscan.....	August 11.....1875
Henry Harrison.....		June 9.....1876
Walter Beall.....		February 24.....1876
Edward Hopkins.....		July.....1875
Michael Banghart.....	101 Corinthian.....	January 5.....1876
J. G. Terrybery.....	106 Burford.....	August 12.....1876
S. E. Burke.....	107 St. Paul's.....	September 14.....1876
Isaac Stone.....	108 Blenheim.....	April 28.....1876
Wm. Rolandson.....	110 Central.....	June 13.....1876
W. G. Culloden.....		December 22.....1875
W. S. Picktraver.....	112 Maitland.....	February 18.....1876
Alex. Webster.....	113 Wilson.....	November 30.....1875
John Keller.....	123 The Belleville.....	April 19.....1876
John Robertson.....		October 10.....1875
Wm. H. Supple.....	125 Cornwall.....	June 22.....1876
Joseph Arnfield.....	128 Pembroke.....	April 29.....1876
James Ching.....	129 The Rising Sun.....	September 23.....1875
Robert Armstrong.....	133 Lebanon Forest.....	May 21.....1876
E. B. Crombie.....	144 Tecumseh.....	.....1876
Alexander Brough.....	148 Civil Service.....	.....1875
William Upton.....	150 Hastings.....	August 12.....1875
Pat. N. Barrigan.....		November 10.....1875
A. G. Adams.....		November 26.....1875
Wm. Littlefield.....	151 The Grand River.....	.....1875
Robert Elliott.....	156 York.....	December 19.....1875
Herman Smith.....	161 Percy.....	April 13.....1876
John W. Kerr.....	169 Macnab.....	November.....1875
Alex. Black.....	170 Britannia.....	April 25.....1876
J. A. Philpott.....	171 Prince of Wales.....	February 3.....1873
Abner Sanders.....		January 15.....1874
Daniel F. Swayze.....		April 20.....1875
H. A. Sims.....	176 Spartan.....	May 20.....1876
Benjamin Huskell.....	177 The Builders.....	July.....1875
Frederick R. Bristow.....		January 25.....1876
James Johnson.....	178 Plattsville.....	November 1.....1875
W. J. Dafoe.....	181 Oriental.....	January 19.....1876
Alex. Hagar.....	183 Prince Albert.....	September 11.....1875
Peter Campbell.....	186 Plantagenet.....	May 30.....1874
George Darling.....	190 Belmont.....	May 6.....1876
Ernst Harfield.....	201 Leeds.....	November 24.....1875
Jno. McPherson.....	205 New Dominion.....	November 13.....1875
H. E. Higgins.....	207 Lancaster.....	January.....1874
James McMillan.....		.....1874
John McIntosh.....		November 20.....1875
Edward Rogers.....	209a St. John's.....	December 4.....1875
Wm. Farris.....		July 17.....1875
J. C. Richards.....	215 Lake.....	July 17.....1875
Alex. Neil.....		August 15.....1875
John Hayes.....	216 Harris.....	July 13.....1875
Alex. Campbell.....		December 5.....1875
W. O. Cowan.....	220 Zeredatha.....	July 4.....1875
Thomas Evans.....	221 Mountain.....	September 7.....1875
Robert Moore.....	222 Marmora.....	December.....1875
Benjamin Green.....	225 Bernard.....	July 24.....1875
John Cochrane.....	232 Cameron.....	.....1875
Samuel R. Shaw, sen.....	235 Aldworth.....	June 8.....1876
Thomas Painter.....	241 Quinte.....	April 14.....1876
G. B. Packham.....	253 Minden.....	January 7.....1876
George S. Phillips.....	255 Sydenham.....	February 25.....1876
Thomas Flanagan.....	257 Galt.....	April 16.....1875
J. S. Short.....		June 1.....1875
Thomas Barkley.....	263 Forest.....	.....1876
	286 Wingham.....	March 31.....1876

AT REST.

NAMES.	NO. OF LODGE.	DATE.
George Groves.....	296 Temple.....	{.....
J. B. Benson.....		{.....
Wm. H. Miller.....	299 Victoria.....	March 19 .....1876
Aaron C. Cady.....	302 St. David's.....	April 24.....1876
Cyrus Lane.....	307 Arkona.....	June 21.....1876
Wm. H. Patterson.....	308 Grafton.....	March 7 .....1876
James Miller.....	314 Blair.....	May 3.....1876
Thomas Reveler.....	320 Chesterville.....	June 6.....1876
Edwin Lewis.....	330 Corinthian.....	April 21.....1876
George Fry.....	343 Georgina.....	January 20'..... 1876

AT RISE.

[illegible]



En Memoriam.

MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER

ALDIS BERNARD,

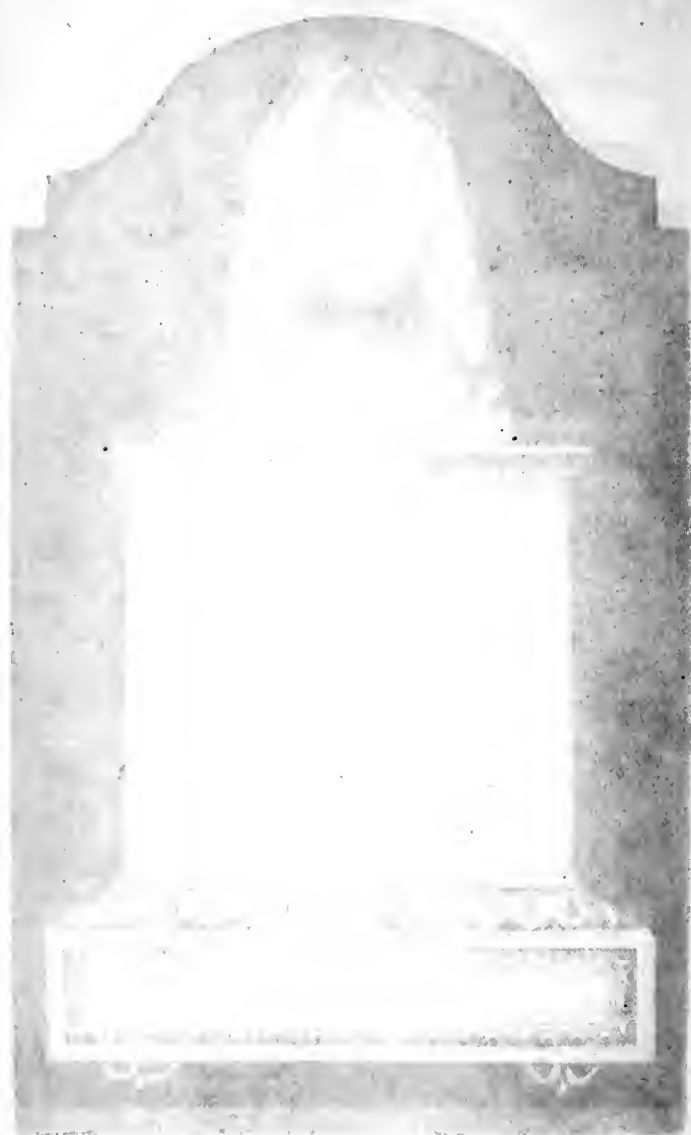
P. M. Lodge of Antiquity, Montreal.

P. G. MASTER GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

DIED AT SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA,

July 3rd, A. D. 1876, Aged 66 Years.

AT REST.





In Memoriam.

VERY WORSHIPFUL BROTHER

WILLIAM HENRY SUPPLE,

PAST MASTER PEMBROKE LODGE, No. 128.

PAST GRAND SENIOR DEACON GRAND LODGE
OF CANADA.

DIED 22nd JUNE, A. D. 1876,

AGED 28 YEARS.

AT REST.

PERCIVAL & CO. HAMILTON

LIST OF GRAND OFFICERS FOR 1876-7.

M. W. Bro.	James K. Kerr, Q. C.,	Toronto,	Grand Master.
R. " "	W. H. Weller,	Cobourg.	Deputy Grand Master.
" " "	Thos. C. Macnabb,	Chatham, D. D. G. M.	St. Clair District.
" " "	Jas. Sutton, M. D.,	Lucan,	" London "
" " "	C. Bennett,	Port Rowan,	" Wilson "
" " "	J. G. Cooper,	Walkerton,	" Huron "
" " "	John Cavers,	Galt	" Wellington "
" " "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton,	" Hamilton "
" " "	John Dale,	Thorold,	" Niagara "
" " "	Daniel Spry,	Toronto,	" Toronto "
" " "	E. Peplow, jr.,	Port Hope,	" Ontario "
" " "	Donald Ross,	Picton,	" Prince Edward "
" " "	J. Stephenson, M. D.,	Iroquois,	" St. Lawrence "
" " "	William Kerr,	Ottawa,	" Ottawa "
" " "	H. Fred. Sharp,	St. Marys,	Grand Senior Warden.
" " "	E. Allworth, M. D.	Kingsville,	Grand Junior Warden.
" " "	Rev. W. R. Ross,	Pickering,	Grand Chaplain.
" " "	E. Mitchell,	Hamilton,	Grand Treasurer.
" " "	Isaac Waterman,	London,	Grand Registrar.
" " "	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton,	Grand Secretary.
V. " "	James Speight,	Markham,	Grand Senior Deacon.
" " "	J. M. Platt, M. D.,	Picton,	Grand Junior Deacon.
" " "	Hugh Walker,	Guelph,	Grand Superintendent of Works.
" " "	W. J. Hambly,	Toronto,	Grand Director of Ceremonies.
" " "	J. M. Gibson,	Hamilton,	Asst. Grand Secretary.
" " "	C. H. Corbett,	Kingston,	Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies.
" " "	Wm. Brydon,	Toronto,	Grand Sword Bearer.
" " "	George J. Waugh,	Stratford,	Grand Organist.
" " "	W. D. Lockhart,	Orono,	Asst. Grand Organist.
" " "	John Bishop,	Brantford,	Grand Pursuivant.
" " "	Richard Radcliffe,	St. Catharines,	Grand Tyler.
V. W. Bro.	Wm. Young,	Chatham,	} Grand Stewards.
" " "	John Fisher,	Eglington,	
" " "	J. Jas. Lundy,	Peterboro',	
" " "	Robt. Newbery,	Belleville,	
" " "	Robt. Paterson,	Pt. Dalhousie,	
" " "	Wm. Fleming,	London,	
" " "	Henry Smith,	Plantagenet,	
" " "	J. C. Doeblor,	Port Hope,	
" " "	R. McIntosh, M. D.,	Meaford,	
" " "	George Risk,	Plattsville,	}
" " "	Robert Weir,	York,	
" " "	George Walker,	Beamsville.	}
" " "			

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

PRESIDENT :

R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, D. G. M., Cobourg.

VICE-PRESIDENT :

R. W. Bro. H. Macpherson, Owen Sound.

OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE. (By virtue of office.)

M. W. Bro.	James K. Kerr, Q. C.,	Grand Master,	Toronto.
R. " "	W. H. Weller,	Deputy Grand Master,	Cobourg.
" " "	H. Fred. Sharp,	Grand Senior Warden.	St. Marys.
" " "	E. Allworth, M. D.,	Grand Junior Warden,	Kingsville.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.

M. W. Bro.	T. Douglas Harington,	Past Grand Master,	Ottawa.
" " "	W. B. Simpson,	" " "	Montreal.
" " "	A. A. Stevenson,	" " "	"
" " "	T. White, jr.,	" " "	"
" " "	James Seymour,	" " "	St. Catharines.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro.	Thos. C. Macnabb,	Chatham,	St. Clair	District.
" "	James Sutton,	M. D. Lucan,	London	"
" "	Chauncey Bennett,	Port Rowan,	Wilson	"
" "	J. G. Cooper,	Walkerton,	Huron	"
" "	John Cavers,	Galt,	Wellington	"
" "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton,	Hamilton	"
" "	John Dale,	Thorold,	Niagara	"
" "	Daniel Spry,	Toronto,	Toronto	"
" "	E. Peplow, jr.	Port Hope,	Ontario	"
" "	Donald Ross,	Picton,	Prince Edward	"
" "	James Stephenson,	Iroquois,	St. Lawrence	"
" "	William Kerr,	Ottawa,	Ottawa	"

ELECTED BY GRAND LODGE.

R. W. Bro.	J. E. Harding, P. D. D. G. M.,	St. Marys.
" " "	Hugh Murray, P. G. J. W.,	Hamilton.
" " "	J. A. Henderson, P. D. D. G. M.,	Kingston.
" " "	S. B. Harman, P. G. S. W.,	Toronto.
V. " "	F. J. Menet, P. G. S. D.,	Toronto.
R. " "	Otto Klotz, P. D. D. G. M.,	Preston.
" " "	C. D. Macdonnell, P. D. D. G. M.,	Peterboro.
" " "	J. B. Traves, P. D. D. G. M.,	Port Hope.
" " "	Henry Robertson, P. D. D. G. M.,	Collingwood.
" " "	Henry Macpherson, P. G. S. W.,	Owen Sound.

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND MASTER.

R. W. Bro.	R. P. Stephens, P. D. D. G. M.,	Toronto.
" " "	J. W. Murton, P. G. S. W.,	Hamilton.
" " "	James Moffat, P. D. D. G. M.,	London.
" " "	James Bain, P. G. S. W.,	Toronto.
" " "	J. D. Henderson, P. M.,	Colborne.
" " "	J. H. Benson, P. D. D. G. M.,	Seaforth.
" " "	Allan McLean, P. G. S. W.,	Ingersoll.
" " "	John McLaren, P. D. D. G. M.,	Mount Forest.
" " "	J. W. Pickup, P. D. D. G. M.,	Pakenham.
V. " "	Thomas Sargant, P. G. Steward.	Toronto.

REPRESENTATIVES

FROM THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

Brazil,	Ill. Bro. Dr. Franc De Paula Romas.
Central America,	" " " L. Montafar.
Chili,	" " " A. M. Medina.
Connecticut,	R. W. Bro. Wm. S. Fish.
England,	" " " The Right Hon. Lord De Tably.
Florida,	" " " D. C. Dawkins.
France,	Ill. Bro. Caubet.
Georgia,	R. W. Bro. Wm. H. Tuller.
Illinois,	" " " Wiley M. Egan.
Indiana,	M. " " Harvey G. Hazelrigg.
Iowa,	" " " Reuben Mickel.
Ireland,	R. " " James Vokes Mackey.
Italy,	Ill. Bro. Francesco De Luca.
Kansas,	R. W. Bro. E. T. Carr.
Kentucky,	" " " W. T. Darrow.
Manitoba,	M. " " Hon. W. N. Kennedy.
Mexico,	Ill. Bro. Luis Goapil.
Michigan,	R. W. Bro. Robert H. Morrison.
Minnesota,	" " " A. W. Bangs.
Missouri,	" " " George Frank Gouley.
Nebraska,	" " " R. C. Jordan.
Nevada,	" " " Thos. W. Chubbuck.
New Brunswick,	M. " " John V. Ellis,
New Grenada,	Ill. Bro. J. M. Samper Angiano.
New Jersey,	M. W. Bro. Henry R. Cannon.
New York,	R. " " Henry W. Turner.
Nova Scotia,	" " " Andrew Kerr MacKinley.
Ohio,	" " " Rev. A. H. Washburne.
Oregon,	" " " Alexander Watt.
Pennsylvania,	" " " Samuel C. Perkins.
Portugal,	Ill. Bro. Joas Cartona D'Almeida.
Prince Edward Isl.	M. W. Bro. Hon. John Yeo.
Quebec,	R. " " Alexander Murray.
Saint Domingo,	Ill. Bro. Jacinto De Castro.
Scotland,	R. W. Bro. Lindsay Mackersy.
Tennessee,	" " " George S. Blackie, M. D.
Texas,	M. " " Philip C. Tucker.
Uruguay,	Ill. Bro. Laurentino Ximenez.
Utah,	R. W. Bro. William Drummond Wilson.
Venezuela,	Ill. Bro. Antonio M. Mollejas.
Virginia,	R. W. Bro. Rev. Dr. Dame.
West Virginia,	" " " W. H. Freeman.
Wisconsin,	" " " Charles Kahn.

REPRESENTATIVES

IN THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

Brazil,	M. W. Bro. Alexander A. Stevenson.	
Chili,	R. " " Rev. Vincent Clementi.	
Connecticut,	M. " " Alexander A. Stevenson.	
England,	R. " " The Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald,	
Florida,	R. W. Bro. John James Mason.	[K. C. B.]
France,	M. " " Thomas White, jr.	
Georgia,	R. " " David McLellan.	
Illinois,	" " " David McLellan.	
Iowa,	" " " John James Mason.	
Ireland,	" " " Kivas Tully.	
Italy,	M. " " William B. Simpson.	
Kansas,	R. " " John James Mason.	
Kentucky,	" " " Daniel Spry.	
Manitoba,	" " " .Emilius Irving, M. P.	
Michigan,	" " " Hugh A. Mackay.	
Minnesota,	M. " " Alexander A. Stevenson.	
Mississippi,	" " " James Seymour.	
Missouri,	" " " James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Q. C.	
Nebraska,	R. " " Robert Ramsay.	
Nevada,	M. " " Thomas White, jr.	
New Brunswick,	" " " Hon. T. B. Pardee, M. P. P.	
New Jersey,	M. " " James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Q. C.	
New York,	R. " " J. A. Henderson, Q. C.	
Nova Scotia,	M. " " Thomas D. Harington.	
Ohio,	R. " " Robert Ramsay.	
Oregon,	" " " Charles D. Macdonnell.	
Pennsylvania,	M. " " Thomas D. Harington.	
P. Edward Island,	R. " " William H. Weller.	
Quebec,	M. " " Thomas D. Harington.	
Scotland,	R. " " Hugh A. Mackay.	
Texas,	M. " " James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Q. C.	
Uruguay,	R. " " Henry Macpherson.	
Utah,	M. " " James Kirkpatrick Kerr, Q. C.	
Vermont,	" " " Thomas D. Harington.	
Virginia,	" " " William Brydon.	
West Virginia,	R. " " John E. Harding.	
Wisconsin,	" " " William H. Frazer.	

SYNOPSIS OF THE RETURNS OF LODGES,

for the year ending 24th June, 1876.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Died.	Susp. N. P. D.	Susp. U. M. C.	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
2 Niagara.....	Niagara.....	4	5	5	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	56
3 Ancient St. John's.....	Kingston.....	6	4	6	3	3	3	...	...	...	1	146
5 Sussex.....	Brockville.....	4	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
6 Barton.....	Hamilton.....	10	11	9	4	5	4	...	...	...	...	196
7 Union.....	Grimsbv.....	8	8	8	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	58
9 Union.....	Napanee.....	21	17	14	12	8	1	6	...	...	...	107
10 Norfolk.....	Simcoe.....	...	1	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	81
11 Moira.....	Belleville.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
14 True Britons'.....	Perth.....	3	3	2	...	3	...	5	...	...	1	55
15 St. George's.....	St. Catharines.....	6	4	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
16 St. Andrew's.....	Toronto.....	10	7	2	7	2	...	...	1	...	...	152
17 St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	9	9	8	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	76
18 Prince Edward.....	Pictou.....	8	8	7	6	1	2	7	...	...	...	114
20 St. John's.....	London.....	11	4	5	1	1	1	...	2	2	...	121
22 King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	15	11	8	8	9	2	13	...	...	...	148
23 Richmond.....	Richmond Hill.....	3	2	2	2	2	...	2	...	...	...	57
24 St. Francis.....	Smith's Falls.....	3	3	5	2	3	...	1	...	...	...	42
25 Ionic.....	Toronto.....	8	9	7	2	6	1	1	...	...	1	106
26 Ontario.....	Port Hope.....	7	7	6	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	59
27 Strict Observance.....	Hamilton.....	11	10	9	4	5	1	9	...	...	...	167
18 Mount Zion.....	Kemptville.....	4	6	5	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	59
29 United.....	Brighton.....	6	5	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	41
30 Composite.....	Whitby.....	3	1	1	...	2	1	4	...	...	...	64
31 Jerusalem.....	Bowmanville.....	10	9	9	3	3	1	6	...	...	...	62
32 Amity.....	Dunnville.....	1	3	3	...	1	...	4	...	...	1	84
33 Goderich.....	Goderich.....	5	5	5	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	71
34 Thistle.....	Amherstburg.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
35 St. John's.....	Cayuga.....	3	3	8	...	7	2	...	...	...	...	45
36 Welland.....	Fonthill.....	1	2	2	1	9	...	...	...	...	1	47
37 King Hiram.....	Ingersoll.....	10	9	8	1	3	1	6	2	2	...	75
38 Trent.....	Trenton.....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	49
39 Mount Zion.....	Brooklyn.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
40 St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	20	23	22	2	4	5	...	...	...	2	176
41 St. George's.....	Kingsville.....	4	4	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	67
42 St. George's.....	London.....	10	15	15	4	10	...	...	1	1	1	101
43 King Solomon's.....	Woodstock.....	11	13	14	3	2	...	10	...	...	...	71
44 St. Thomas.....	St. Thomas.....	13	11	11	4	6	...	...	...	...	1	113
45 Brant.....	Brantford.....	3	3	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	98
46 Wellington.....	Chatham.....	5	5	4	2	5	1	6	...	...	...	75
47 Great Western.....	Windsor.....	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	119
48 Madoc.....	Madoc.....	5	5	7	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	57
50 Consec.....	Consecon.....	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	33
51 Corinthian.....	Grahamville.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
52 Dalhousie.....	Ottawa.....	4	6	7	2	10	...	22	...	...	...	76
54 Vaughan.....	Maple.....	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
55 Merrickville.....	Merrickville.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
56 Victoria.....	Sarnia.....	1	3	2	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	106
57 Harmony.....	Binbrook.....	1	1	1	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	34
58 Doric.....	Ottawa.....	6	4	4	3	5	...	9	...	...	...	84
61 Acacia.....	Hamilton.....	8	9	12	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	151
62 St. Andrews.....	Caledonia.....	5	5	3	...	5	3	...	...	...	2	56
63 St. John's.....	Carleton Place.....	3	3	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	49
64 Kilwinning.....	London.....	2	3	3	...	2	3	6	9	9	1	123
65 Rehoboam.....	Toronto.....	9	7	6	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	95
66 Durham.....	Newcastle.....	8	9	9	...	3	1	2	1	1	...	45
68 St. John's.....	Ingersoll.....	5	6	7	2	3	2	...	1	1	...	88
69 Stirling.....	Stirling.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
72 Alma.....	Galt.....	8	7	7	4	3	2	...	...	...	1	84
73 St. James.....	St. Mary's.....	4	4	4	2	2	...	...	3	3	...	79

Synopsis of the Returns of Lodges, for the year ending 24th June, 1876—Continued.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Died.	Susp. N. P. D.	Susp. U. M. C.	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
74 St. James.....	Maitland.....	6	4	2	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	64
75 St. John's.....	Toronto.....	13	12	12	9	3	1	...	...	...	1	184
76 Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	8	7	5	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	68
77 Faithful Breth'n.	Lindsay.....	11	11	6	1	...	...	7	...	...	1	44
78 King Hiram.....	Tilsonburg.....	1	...	...	...	...	1	9	...	...	...	54
79 Simcoe.....	Bradford.....	2	2	...	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	32
80 Albion.....	Newbury.....	...	...	3	...	6	...	...	1	1	...	42
81 St. John's.....	Mount Brydges.....	5	6	5	1	3	...	5	...	...	...	54
82 St. John's.....	Paris.....	2	2	1	2	1	1	6	...	...	...	49
83 Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	12	15	17	3	10	1	1	...	...	1	97
84 Clinton.....	Clinton.....	4	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	47
85 Rising Sun.....	Farmersville.....	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	41
86 Wilson.....	Toronto.....	18	17	20	1	15	2	8	1	1	...	117
87 Markham Union.	Markham.....	3	2	4	...	...	1	3	...	...	3	58
88 St. George's.....	Owen Sound.....	8	9	8	4	6	...	3	...	...	...	63
89 King Hiram.....	Lindsay.....	11	14	10	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	32
90 Manito.....	Collingwood.....	16	15	13	1	7	...	6	...	...	...	86
91 Colborne.....	Colborne.....	5	6	4	...	1	...	3	...	...	2	62
92 Cataraqui.....	Kingston.....	10	7	8	1	4	2	7	...	...	1	139
93 Northern Light..	Kincardine.....	5	5	12	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
94 St. Mark's.....	Port Stanley.....	4	4	4	4	1	...	1	1	1	...	58
95 Ridout.....	Otterville.....	1	2	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	40
96 Corinthian.....	Barriet.....	3	4	3	2	3	...	6	...	...	...	71
97 Sharon.....	Sharon.....	1	2	6	1	2	3	3	...	...	...	43
98 True Blue.....	Albion.....	3	2	2	...	3	...	4	...	...	...	31
99 Tuscan.....	Newmarket.....	5	6	7	1	3	2	...	...	...	1	57
100 Valley.....	Dundas.....	1	1	2	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	56
101 Corinthian.....	Peterboro'.....	1	1	3	1	3	1	4	...	...	...	47
103 Maple Leaf.....	St. Catharines.....	12	5	6	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	107
104 St. John's.....	Norwichville.....	3	4	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	40
105 St. Mark's.....	Drummondville.....	4	3	3	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	81
106 Burford.....	Burford.....	1	2	6	3	5	1	3	...	...	...	61
107 St. Paul's.....	Lambeth.....	6	7	6	1	4	1	6	...	...	1	58
108 Blenheim.....	Drumbo.....	6	5	5	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	23
109 Albion.....	Harrowsmith.....	5	4	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	51
110 Central.....	Prescott.....	3	2	4	...	3	2	6	...	...	...	96
111 Morpeth.....	Ridgetown.....	9	9	9	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	46
112 Maitland.....	Goderich.....	3	3	2	1	3	1	...	...	...	...	83
113 Wilson.....	Waterford.....	8	8	6	1	3	1	3	...	...	...	55
114 Hope.....	Port Hope.....	2	1	1	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	60
115 Ivy.....	Beamsville.....	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	48
116 Cassia.....	Widder.....	7	7	6	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	33
118 Union.....	Schomberg.....	9	7	6	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	28
119 Maple Leaf.....	Bath.....	1	2	2	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	42
120 Warren.....	Fingal.....	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
121 Doric.....	Brantford.....	1	3	4	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	72
122 Renfrew.....	Renfrew.....	5	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
123 The Belleville...	Belleville.....	9	9	9	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	99
125 Cornwall.....	Cornwall.....	12	11	7	2	3	1	6	...	...	...	67
126 Golden Rule.....	Campbellsford.....	1	...	...	...	2	...	6	...	...	...	35
127 Franck.....	Frankford.....	5	3	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	60
128 Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	10	8	5	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	81
129 The Rising Sun...	Aurora.....	2	2	2	1	3	1	...	...	...	1	59
131 St. Lawrence.....	Southampton.....	5	3	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
133 Lebanon Forest.	Exeter.....	6	5	8	2	6	2	2	1	...	1	71
135 St. Clair.....	Milton.....	3	3	3	2	6	...	1	...	...	...	76
136 Richardson.....	Stouffville.....	7	7	7	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	36
137 Pythagoras.....	Meaford.....	3	3	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	51
139 Lebanon.....	Oshawa.....	5	8	10	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	76
140 Malahide.....	Aylmer.....	3	5	8	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	82
141 Tudor.....	Mitchell.....	7	6	3	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	81
142 Excelsior.....	Morrisburg.....	2	5	6	2	3	...	1	...	...	...	83

Synopsis of the Returns of Lodges, for the year ending 24th June, 1876.—Continued.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Pied.	Susp. N. P. D.	Susp. U. M. C.	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
143 Friendly Bro's.....	Troquois.....	3	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	64
144 Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	4	7	5	4	14	1	...	...	...	1	92
145 J. B. Hall.....	Millbrook.....	5	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
146 Prince of Wales.....	Newburgh.....	3	2	2	7	7	...	...	...	...	1	45
147 Mississippi.....	Almonte.....	2	6	5	2	3	...	2	1	...	...	43
148 Civil Service.....	Ottawa.....	2	2	2	7	1	2	...	...	...	...	63
149 Erie.....	Port Dover.....	2	5	5	1	8	...	2	...	...	1	54
150 Hastings.....	Hastings.....	3	4	5	...	1	3	1	...	...	...	37
151 The Grand River.....	Berlin.....	8	6	4	5	2	1	...	...	...	...	76
153 Burns.....	Wyoming.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
154 Irving.....	Lucan.....	9	10	10	1	...	...	1	3	3	...	75
155 Peterboro'.....	Peterboro'.....	6	7	7	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	53
156 York.....	Eglinton.....	10	12	9	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	64
157 Simpson.....	Newboro'.....	2	2	1	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	40
158 Alexandra.....	Oil Springs.....	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	42
159 Goodwood.....	Richmond.....	3	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
161 Percy.....	Warkworth.....	2	2	1	2	...	1	4	...	...	...	43
162 Forest.....	Wroxeter.....	5	5	3	...	9	...	1	...	...	...	28
164 Star in the East.....	Wellington.....	5	6	5	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	48
165 Burlington.....	Wellington Square.....	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
166 Wentworth.....	Stoney Creek.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
168 Merritt.....	Welland.....	6	6	7	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	55
169 Macnab.....	Port Colborne.....	7	7	7	1	4	1	...	1	...	...	77
170 Britannia.....	Seaforth.....	1	3	5	2	4	1	...	...	...	...	62
171 Prince of Wales.....	Iona.....	11	10	8	1	7	3	2	2	1	...	31
172 Ayr.....	Ayr.....	2	1	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	50
174 Walsingham.....	Port Rowan.....	2	...	1	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	70
176 Spartan.....	Sparta.....	6	6	5	...	1	1	3	2	2	...	50
177 The Builders.....	Ottawa.....	5	6	6	7	3	2	6	...	...	2	92
178 Plattsville.....	Plattsville.....	5	5	5	2	3	1	1	...	...	...	46
179 Bothwell.....	Bothwell.....	1	1	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	56
180 Speed.....	Guelph.....	8	11	10	7	4	...	1	...	...	...	112
181 Oriental.....	Port Burwell.....	2	1	1	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	50
183 Prince Albert.....	Port Perry.....	5	...	...	1	4	1	...	...	...	...	75
184 Old Light.....	Lucknow.....	...	1	1	1	3	...	6	...	...	...	41
185 Enniskillen.....	York.....	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	40
186 Plantagenet.....	Plantagenet.....	4	2	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	31
189 Filius Viduae.....	Adolphustown.....	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	18
190 Belmont.....	Belmont.....	7	6	9	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	60
192 Orillia.....	Orillia.....	4	7	9	...	6	...	5	...	...	2	62
193 Scotland.....	Scotland.....	1	...	2	1	3	...	8	...	...	1	34
194 Petrolia.....	Petrolia.....	1	2	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	47
195 The Tuscan.....	London.....	5	5	4	2	1	...	1	1	...	...	53
196 Madawaska.....	Arnprior.....	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
197 Saugeen.....	Walkerton.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
198 White Oak.....	Oakville.....	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	64
200 St. Albans.....	Mount Forest.....	4	5	4	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	55
201 Leeds.....	Gananoque.....	5	8	6	1	4	...	1	...	...	...	91
203 Irvine.....	Elora.....	1	1	1	3	11	...	4	...	...	...	74
205 New Dominion.....	New Hamburg.....	1	1	1	1	3	1	...	...	...	...	45
206 North Gower.....	North Gower.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
207 Lancaster.....	Lancaster.....	4	4	4	2	1	4	...	...	...	...	55
209a St. John's.....	London.....	15	12	5	6	1	2	5	1	1	4	89
209 Evergreen.....	Lanark.....	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	34
210 Hawkesbury.....	Hawkesbury.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
212 Elysian.....	Garden Island.....	3	3	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	60
213 Dominion.....	Ridgeway.....	2	4	4	...	2	...	6	1	...	...	50
214 Craig.....	Ailsa Craig.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
215 Lake.....	Ameliasburg.....	4	7	7	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	26
216 Harris.....	Orangeville.....	3	4	5	...	3	...	6	...	...	...	59
217 Frederick.....	Delhi.....	2	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	39
218 Stevenson.....	Toronto.....	7	7	6	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	114

Synopsis of the Returns of Lodges for the year ending 24th June, 1876.—Continued.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Died.	Susp. N. P. D.	Susp. U. M. C.	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
219 Credit.....	Georgetown.....	3	1	2	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	54
220 Zeredatha.....	Uxbridge.....	12	12	11	...	4	1	...	1	...	...	64
221 Mountain.....	Thorold.....	6	8	10	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	73
222 Marmora.....	Marmora.....	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	14
223 Norwood.....	Norwood.....	2	2	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	29
224 Zurich.....	Zurich.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	25
225 Bernard.....	Listowel.....	10	8	5	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	45
228 Prince Arthur.....	Odessa.....	4	3	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	40
229 Ionic.....	Brampton.....	8	9	6	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	56
230 Kerr.....	Bell Ewart.....	2	2	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	27
231 Lodge of Fidelity.....	Ottawa.....	10	10	9	1	1	...	4	...	...	...	55
232 Cameron.....	Wallacetown.....	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	42
233 Doric.....	Park Hill.....	5	7	6	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	58
234 Beaver.....	Clarksburg.....	6	9	8	1	6	...	4	...	...	...	41
255 Aldworth.....	Paisley.....	1	5	5	1	3	1	...	...	...	...	38
236 Manitoba.....	Bondhead.....	1	3	3	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	30
237 Vienna.....	Vienna.....	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	34
238 Havelock.....	Watford.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
239 Tweed.....	Tweed.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
241 Quinte.....	Shannonville.....	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	...	...	...	42
242 Macoy.....	Escott Front.....	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
243 St. George.....	St. George.....	9	8	6	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	47
245 Tecumseh.....	Thamesville.....	2	2	4	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	48
247 Ashlar.....	Yorkville.....	6	7	7	...	7	...	...	1	1	1	50
248 Eureka.....	Pakenham.....	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
249 Caledonian.....	Angus.....	...	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	34
250 Thistle.....	Embro.....	4	3	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	38
253 Minden.....	Kingston.....	8	7	8	4	...	1	1	...	...	1	83
254 Clifton.....	Clifton.....	9	10	10	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	75
255 Sydenham.....	Dresden.....	6	3	2	2	2	1	2	...	...	...	44
256 Farran's Point.....	Farran's Point.....	3	5	5	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	45
257 Galt.....	Galt.....	16	12	8	4	2	2	5	...	...	...	71
258 Guelph.....	Guelph.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
259 Springfield.....	Springfield.....	9	11	13	3	1	...	3	1	1	...	71
260 Washington.....	Petrolia.....	4	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
261 Oak Branch.....	Innerkip.....	3	3	3	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	36
262 Harriston.....	Harriston.....	9	9	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
263 Forest.....	Forest.....	4	3	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	43
264 Chaudiere.....	Ottawa.....	3	3	4	1	3	...	3	...	...	1	57
265 Patterson.....	Thornhill.....	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
266 Northern Light.....	Stayner.....	4	2	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	31
267 Parthenon.....	Chatham.....	4	4	5	1	3	...	2	1	...	...	93
268 Verulam.....	Bobcaygeon.....	9	7	6	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	46
269 Bro'ham Union.....	Brougham.....	4	5	3	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	45
270 Cedar.....	Oshawa.....	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	54
271 Wellington.....	Erin.....	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	25
272 Seymour.....	Ancaster.....	5	3	3	1	3	...	2	...	...	...	29
274 Kent.....	Blenheim.....	6	6	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	61
276 Teeswater.....	Teeswater.....	15	14	13	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
277 Seymour.....	Port Dalhousie.....	3	1	5	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	58
278 Mystic.....	Roslin.....	11	13	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
279 New Hope.....	Hespeler.....	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	25
280 Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	2	2	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	41
281 Thorne.....	Holland Landing.....	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	21
282 Lorne.....	Glencoe.....	4	5	7	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	44
283 Eureka.....	Belleville.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
284 St. John's.....	Brussels.....	4	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	40
285 Seven Star.....	Alliston.....	2	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
286 Wingham.....	Wingham.....	2	4	3	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	38
287 Shuniah.....	Pr. Arthur's L'ndg.,	10	9	7	1	13	...	1	1	...	...	50
289 Doric.....	Lobo.....	9	7	9	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	39
290 Leamington.....	Leamington.....	4	4	4	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	46

Synopsis of the Returns of Lodges for the year ending 24th June, 1876.—Continued.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Died.	Susp. N.P.D.	Susp. U. M.C.	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
291 Dufferin	West Flamboro...	4	6	6	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	29
292 Robertson.....	Nobleton	4	4	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	22
293 The R. Sol. Moth.	Jerusalem, Pal ..	7	5	6	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	19
294 Moore	Mooretown .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
295 Conestogo.....	Drayton	6	6	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
296 Temple	St. Catharines...	4	4	2	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	39
297 Preston	Preston	3	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
299 Victoria	Centreville	9	7	11	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	39
300 Mount Olivet....	Thornedale	8	7	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
301 Hanover	Hanover	4	6	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
302 St. David's.....	St. Thomas.....	17	11	11	4	2	1	...	1	1	...	102
303 Blyth	Blyth	4	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
304 Minerva	Victoria	1	2	5	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	27
305 Humber	Weston	5	5	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	31
306 Durham	Durham	6	7	13	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	32
307 Arkona	Arkona	3	3	6	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	30
308 Grafton	Grafton	5	10	10	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	30
309 Morning Star....	Smith's Hill	9	9	7	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	35
310 Enterprise.....	Beachburg	1	1	1	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	16
311 Blackwood.....	Woodbridge	7	6	5	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	29
312 Phyx	Wallaceburg .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
313 Clementi.....	Lakefield	2	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
314 Blair	Palmerston.....	11	10	11	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	41
315 Clifford	Clifford	2	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
316 Doric	Toronto .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
317 The Hiram.....	Dundas	4	4	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
318 Wilmot	Baden	5	6	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
319 Hiram	Cheapside	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	20
320 Chesterville	Chesterville.....	3	4	4	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	22
321 Walker	Acton West	8	4	3	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	28
322 North Star.....	Owen Sound	5	4	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	17
323 Alvinston.....	Alvinston .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
324 Temple	Hamilton	10	7	5	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
325 Orono	Orono	8	6	7	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	26
326 Zetland	Toronto	11	13	13	5	4	...	...	...	...	...	68
327 The Hammond...	Wardsville	7	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
328 Ionic	Napier	6	6	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
329 King Solomon ..	Jarvis	13	12	12	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
330 Corinthian.....	London East.....	21	15	15	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	41
331 Fordwich.....	Fordwich	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
332 Stratford.....	Stratford	3	2	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
333 Prince Arthur....	Flesherton	4	2	...	13	1	...	...	...	...	...	25
334 Prince Arthur....	Arthur	9	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
335 Langton	Langton	5	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
336 Highgate	Highgate	3	3	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
337 Myrtle	Port Robinson ..	3	3	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
338 Dufferin	Welland Port.....	3	3	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
339 Orient	Don Mount	18	17	13	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
340 St. John's.....	Pittsburg	6	6	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
341 Bruce	Tiverton .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
342 Hiram	Wolfe Island.....	8	8	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
343 Georgina	Sutton	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	19
344 Merrill	Dorchester Stat'n	8	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
345 Nilestown.....	Nilestown .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
346 Occident	Toronto	3	1	75
347 Mercer	Fergus	13
348 Georgian	Penetanguishene	2	2	13
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Non-affiliated.....	10	10
		1456	1405	1384	395	636	141	398	66	44	57	16719

RECAPITULATION

OF THE RETURNS OF LODGES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 24TH JUNE, 1876, AS FAR
AS HEARD FROM.

Lodges organized and affiliated.....	351
“ extinct.....	6
“ Ceded to Grand Lodge of Quebec.....	38
.. “ “ “ Manitoba.....	4
“ Number on Roll.....	303
“ Represented in Grand Lodge.....	216
Initiations reported.....	1,456
Passings “.....	1,405
Raisings “.....	1,384
Joinings “.....	395
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Resignations “.....	636
Deaths.....	141
Suspensions for non-payment of dues.....	398
“ “ unmasonic conduct.....	66
Expelled.....	44
Members in good standing.....	16,719

Receipts from Lodges for the Fiscal year ending 31st Dec.,	
1875, for fees, dues, &c.,	\$14,130 84
Assets of Grand Lodge, as per Grand Treasurer's statement	
30th June, 1876.....	\$56,116 66

LIST OF GRAND LODGES IN NORTH AMERICA,

WITH NAMES AND RESIDENCES OF THE GRAND SECRETARIES.

STATE.	GRAND SECRETARY.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama.....	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.
Arkansas.....	Luke E. Barber.....	Little Rock.
British Columbia.....	Coote M. Chambers.....	Victoria.
California.....	Alexander G. Abell.....	San Francisco.
Canada.....	J. J. Mason.....	Hamilton.
Colorado.....	Ed. C. Parmalee.....	Georgetown.
Connecticut.....	Joseph K. Wheeler.....	Hartford.
Dakota.....	Mark W. Bailey.....	Canton.
Delaware.....	William S. Hayes.....	Wilmington.
District of Columbia.....	Wm. R. Singleton.....	Washington.
Florida.....	De Witt C. Dawkins.....	Jacksonville.
Georgia.....	J. E. Blackshear, M. D.....	Macon.
Idaho.....	O. H. Purdy.....	Silver City.
Illinois.....	John F. Burrill.....	Springfield.
Indiana.....	John M. Bramwell.....	Indianapolis.
Iowa.....	T. S. Parvin.....	Iowa City.
Kansas.....	John H. Brown.....	Wyandotte.
Kentucky.....	John M. Todd.....	Louisville.
Louisiana.....	James C. Batchelor, M. D.....	New Orleans.
Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.
Manitoba.....	J. H. Bell.....	Winnipeg.
Massachusetts.....	Charles H. Titus.....	Boston.
Maryland.....	Jacob H. Medairy.....	Baltimore.
Michigan.....	Ellery I. Garfield.....	Detroit.
Minnesota.....	A. T. C. Pierson.....	St. Paul.
Mississippi.....	J. L. Power.....	Jackson.
Missouri.....	George Frank Gouley.....	St. Louis.
Montana.....	Cornelius Hedges.....	Helena.
Nebraska.....	William R. Bowen.....	Omaha.
Nevada.....	Samuel W. Chubbuck.....	Gold Hill.
New Brunswick.....	W. F. Bunting.....	St. John.
New Hampshire.....	John A. Harris.....	Concord.
New Jersey.....	Jos. H. Hough.....	Trenton.
New York.....	James M. Austin, M. D.....	New York.
North Carolina.....	Donald W. Bain.....	Raleigh.
Nova Scotia.....	Benjamin Curran.....	Halifax.
Ohio.....	John D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.
Oregon.....	R. P. Earhart.....	Portland.
Pennsylvania.....	John Thomson.....	Philadelphia.
Prince Edward Island.....	B. Wilson Higgs.....	Charlottetown.
Quebec.....	John H. Isaacson.....	Montreal.
Rhode Island.....	Edwin Baker.....	Providence.
South Carolina.....	Charles Inglesby.....	Charleston.
Tennessee.....	John Frizzell.....	Nashville.
Texas.....	George H. Bringham.....	Houston.
Utah.....	Christopher Diehl.....	Salt Lake City.
Vermont.....	Henry Clark.....	Rutland.
Virginia.....	John Dove.....	Richmond.
Washington Territory.....	Thomas M. Reed.....	Olympia.
West Virginia.....	O. S. Long.....	Wheeling.
Wisconsin.....	John W. Woodhull.....	Milwaukee.
Wyoming Territory.....	J. K. Jeffery.....	Cheyenne.

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APPENDIX TO PROCEEDINGS OF 1876.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada:—

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report the receipt of Proceedings from the following Fifty sister Grand lodges—a review of which is herewith submitted, viz :

England.....	1876	Missouri.....	1875
Alabama.....	1875	Montana.....	1875
Arkansas.....	1875	Nebraska.....	1875
British Columbia.....	1875-6	New Brunswick.....	1875
California.....	1875	New Hampshire.....	1875
Colorado.....	1875	New Jersey.....	1876
Connecticut.....	1876	New York.....	1875-6
Dakota.....	1875	North Carolina.....	1875
Delaware.....	1874-5	Nova Scotia ..	1875
District of Columbia.....	1874-5	Ohio.....	1875
Florida.....	1875-6	Oregon.....	1875
Georgia.....	1875	Pennsylvania.....	1875-6
Illinois.....	1875	Prince Edward Island.....	1875
Indiana.....	1875	Quebec.....	1875
Iowa.....	1875	Rhode Island.....	1875
Kansas.....	1875	South Carolina.....	1875
Kentucky.....	1873-4-5	Tennessee ...	1874-5
Louisiana.....	1876	Texas.....	1875-6
Maine.....	1875-6	Utah.....	1875
Manitoba.....	1875	Vermont.....	1875
Maryland.....	1875	Virginia ..	1875
Massachusetts.....	1875-6	Washington.....	1875
Michigan.....	1875-6	West Virginia.....	1874-5
Minnesota.....	1875-6	Wisconsin ..	1875
Mississippi.....	1875-6	Wyoming.....	1875

ENGLAND—1876.

Cherished remembrances of by-gone associations naturally direct our first attention to this venerable parent Grand Lodge, therefore no apology need be offered for giving it the post of honor, although not in alphabetical sequence.

The Quarterly Communication, at which its annual business is transacted, was held in Freemason's Hall, London, in March, R. W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D. G. M., presiding. H. R. H. the Prince of Wales was unanimously re-elected M. W. G. M., the mover and seconder paying a high tribute of praise to His Royal Highness for the interest taken by him in support of the principles of the Order. Nothing but routine business and appropriations for the Quarter's benevolence were taken up. \$6,900 were voted to sixty applicants for relief. The net receipts for 1875 were \$60,645; leaving in hand, after paying disbursements, \$9,210.

The Annual Grand Festival was held in the same place in April, the Earl of Carnarvon presiding. At this communication the elections of Grand Master and Grand Treasurer were confirmed, and the subordinate officers appointed and proclaimed V. W. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary.

ALABAMA—1875.

Annual Communication (55th) held in Montgomery, December 6th. Lodges represented 177; unrepresented 130; defunct 105; total on roll 412. The proceedings occupy 247 pages, 132 being devoted to an able report on Foreign Correspondence by Bro. O. S. Beers—Canada for 1875 courteously noticed in 4½ pages. Feeling allusion was also made to the deaths of our late Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master, Isaiah A. Wilson, delivered an address which was marked by much ability, showing him to be well qualified for his high office. He states that "nothing relating to domestic interests within the jurisdiction has occurred during the year of sufficient importance to be presented prominently for consideration, and no subject had been brought to his knowledge requiring special legislation." He therefore congratulated the Craft on having no vexing or harassing questions to disturb their harmony. He also paid a feeling tribute to the memory of P. G. Master Robert H. Ervin, "who for many years devoted himself to the interests of Masonry, its advancement and honor. He was ever at the post of duty with a willing heart, a strong arm, and a skilful hand."

Of the G. M.'s decisions on points of Constitutional law we quote the following:—

"A mason should not be prejudged nor subjected to any punishment until he has been tried and found guilty. Therefore, a brother may visit and take part in the proceedings of his Lodge, though under charges, until a trial and conviction is had."

"A voluntary confession before trial may be introduced as evidence against the accused while on trial for a Masonic offence."

"A woman divorced from her husband is not a competent witness against him in a Masonic tribunal, as to matters or things which transpired during coverture, but would be competent as to matters occurring subsequent to divorce."

"The written testimony used in a Court of Law or Chancery cannot be used as evidence in a Masonic trial, except by the consent of the parties thereto; but a judgment of a Court of Law or a decree in Chancery may be introduced, simply to show that such judgment or decree had been rendered."

"An objection by a Lodge member to an unaffiliated brother appearing in the Lodge as counsel for the prosecution, should not be entertained, on the ground that no visitor can be admitted during trial. The prosecutor as well as the accused has a right to be represented by counsel, provided he is a M. M. in good standing."

Of the recognition of Manitoba, Bro. Beers says:—

"Truly a weak sister has thus been ushered into life. May she grow in strength, and be adorned with the graces of true Masonic excellence, is our earnest wish in her behalf. One fear is, that the birth was premature, and her future health, vigour and usefulness, will probably depend greatly upon judicious nursing, etc. It was not wise we opine, to leave the generous food furnished by mother Canada, for the 'condensed milk' of frontier independence. But as is sometimes said in similar cases, 'it may be all for the best;' and we beg pardon for obtruding these doubts of our little sister's right to a separate estate and capacity for government."

He takes exception to the word "order" used by our G. M. in his allusions to the Royal Grand Master of England; remarking that it sounds *odd* when used in fellowship with the terms *craft* and *fraternity*. Perhaps, if Bro. Beers will read the extract again, his "point" may not prove so well taken. We fail to see any *oddity* or impropriety in using the term, which certainly cannot fairly be construed into any infringement of the "long established nomenclature" of Ancient Craft Masonry.

In regard to the Grand Orient of Hungary, the committee report:—

"That it is a body working under a ritual not recognized by this Grand Lodge, and probably understood by very few, if any, of our members; and that the great majority of us would be utterly unable to obtain admission to its Communications or any of its Subordinates. That said Grand Orient appears to be a recent offshoot of the Grand Orient of France, from which masonic intercourse has been withdrawn by nearly all American Grand Bodies, on account of its schismatical recognition and encouragement of certain clandestine organizations in this country, that so far this Grand Lodge is the only regular Masonic body in North America that has extended recognition to said Grand Orient of Hungary; therefore, under these circumstances, your Committee conclude that the former action of this Grand Lodge was precipitate and recommend its reconsideration."

The Committee followed up their report with the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved,—That the recognition of the M. W. Grand Orient of Hungary,

adopted by this Grand Lodge in 1873, is hereby withdrawn ; and that the R. W. Grand Secretary is instructed to notify the representative of the aforesaid Grand Orient near this body, and also the representative near the M. W. Grand Orient of Hungary of the action hereby taken."

The same Committee report, with reference to recognizing the new Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, "that as it has been formed from the already existing jurisdiction of New Brunswick, with which Alabama is in accord ; and as New Brunswick's approval has not yet been notified, it is deemed nothing more than courtesy to await such notification before taking final action." Had a number of our American brethren shown similar courtesy to Canada a few years ago, it would have been more in keeping with Masonic teaching, and prevented much of the ill-feeling then engendered by their hasty interference with our affairs. The receipts for the year were \$6,117.35 ; and the sum available for general purposes \$8,337.33.

A Past Grand Master's jewel was voted to the retiring Grand Master.

M. W. Bro. Palmer J. Pillans elected Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS—1875.

Annual Communication (37th) held in the Masonic Temple, Little Rock, October 11.

The Grand Master, M. L. Bell, in his instructive and spirited address, says :—

"Free Masonry has become a mighty power for good in the land, having won for itself an enviable reputation, commanding the respect and patronage of the wise, the great and good among men. Its teachings are derived from the purest source—that great light that ever burns upon our altars. Its foundation is Truth ; its supports, Wisdom, Strength and Beauty ; its virtues, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice ; its jewels, Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love."

He says they have now within the jurisdiction more than 12,000 members—An army of noble men in a good cause—"men who support a noble institution of learning, built up by our own beloved Order a source of love and pride to our brethren, and one that is destined to send out from her halls many a noble youth fully armed and equipped for the battle of life, destined to make his mark upon the history of our State, and bless the Masons of Arkansas, whose kindness has thus blessed him."

His decisions upon questions of jurisprudence are very clear and logical, and show intimate acquaintance with general Masonic usage. In the case of a brother charged with

embezzlement who had absconded and could not be personally served with notice of trial, after four months fruitless effort, he decided that trial could follow without such service. He says, "It is true the by-laws provide for service before trial, but, this is upon the supposition that the brother is in the vicinage. But where a brother commits a felony and is indicted for it, and flees the country, he certainly cannot expect the Lodge to suffer reproach on his account. Every lodge has the right to keep out bad material, and to put it out if it once gets in, according to law; but if the offender voluntarily puts himself beyond reach of the Lodge and the law, the Lodge still has the inherent right to purge itself," which is sound law.

The Treasurer having deposited the funds of Grand Lodge with monies of his own, and the bank having suspended, causing a loss of \$449.47½, he applied to the Grand Lodge for relief for that amount. The Committee properly declined to endorse his request, on the ground that the funds were not deposited in the name of the Grand Lodge, and that he was in the habit of using the monies for his own advantage; but freely acquitted him of intentional wrong in the matter.

The proceedings contain a few pages of Masonic history, which is continued from year to year. This is an excellent feature in the report, and might be copied with much advantage by other Grand Lodges.

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence. The number of Chartered Lodges is 322; members 9,413.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were both re-elected.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—1873-4-5-6.

Two well prepared and neatly printed pamphlets, contain the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the years 1875 and 6; the former containing an appendix of the proceedings for the years 1873 and 4.

These precious treasures from our Brethren of the Pacific Slope are exceedingly welcome, and show remarkable signs of progress. Although the population is at present sparse, the reports demonstrate that the material is ample, and fully able to keep pace with the surely increasing influx of population to that portion of the Masonic field. It might be proper to begin with the appendix for the years 1873 and 4, but we prefer to take them in the order presented, beginning with the address of our esteemed M. W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Israel W. Powell, Grand Master, (a name well known and not forgotten by many craftsmen on this side of the Rocky Mountains,) who

has done good service in the cause of Masonry in British Columbia, and who for the three years previous to 1875 worthily presided in the Grand Master's chair.

On the 20th of February, 1875, this Grand Lodge held its fourth annual session at the Masonic Hall, Victoria—M. W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Powell, Grand Master, and V. W. Bro. Henry Frederick Heisterman, Grand Secretary. Eight Chartered Lodges were represented, and the representatives of the Grand Lodges of Utah, Oregon, Washington Territory, England and Illinois were also present.

The Grand Master delivered an excellent address, in which he says that, "compared with other and far more populous jurisdictions, our members are small and unimportant. The time is not far distant when the rich resources of the country will enable British Columbians to participate in the thrift and progress of older countries on the American continent; and when our Grand Lodge will assume her proper status with those enterprising Sisters, which now command our admiration for their wonderful strides in population, wealth, and glory of their Masonic deeds. Glancing at the proceedings of other Grand Lodges, some of which come to us most voluminous in form and replete with the bright efforts of Masonic genius and intellect, one cannot help deprecating the smallness of our own labors, and lamenting the commensurate limitation of our apparent usefulness in furthering the great and universal interests of the Craft.

Yet, my brethren, it has fallen to our lot to lay the Corner Stone of the Temple in this most distant and isolated portion of the land. How glorious the mission, and how important the task of placing a foundation which may not be found defective for the superb superstructure which is sure to follow."

These are noble sentiments, worthy of a true and accomplished Mason, and we sincerely trust his prophecy will in due time be fully realized.

He refers in fraternal terms to the death of the Grand Masters of Nova Scotia and Canada, with the latter of whom he had an intimate personal acquaintance from boyhood, which compels him to mourn his loss with heartfelt sorrow.

He also informs us that the Grand Lodge of British Columbia enjoys fraternal intercourse with nearly all the Grand Bodies on the Continent, and also in the Old World, from many of whom messages of encouragement and congratulation have been received.

After inviting their attention to the necessity of a Masonic

Hall, a uniform ritual, and a Grand Lodge Library, he closes his interesting address with a hearty God speed.

Though re-elected, he generously declined serving again, preferring that the honors of the oriental chair should be conferred upon his able coadjutor the Deputy Grand Master.

The fifth Annual Communication was held in the same place on February 19th, 1876, M. W. Bro. Simeon Duck, Grand Master, presiding.

In his address, he says, that "although during the past year our Lodges have not increased their numbers to that extent which would have been most pleasing to us, yet we are assured that they are in as healthy a condition as the stringency of the times would seem to justify."

He refers to the continuance of friendly relations with other Grand Lodges, and to the question of ritual, upon which as with all new organizations there is always much diversity on minor points; but mutual forbearance and a desire to harmonize the work, will soon tide over this temporary difficulty.

He also refers in feeling terms to the demise of our late Grand Secretary, Harris, and asks the sympathy of the Grand Lodge for the loss they have sustained among their own members by the unfortunate accident to the Steamship Pacific, which deprived them of several earnest and zealous Masons.

The total receipts for the past year were \$1,319.17 leaving a balance in hand after paying current expenses \$437.97. The Benevolent Fund and Widows' and Orphans' Fund show a progressive tendency, the balance now at the credit of which is \$2,315.69.

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence, but that will come in due time, and meanwhile we can truly say, "God speed you little sister."

M. W. Bro. Fred. Williams, elected Grand Master; and V. W. C. M. Chambers, Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA—1875.

Annual Communication (26th) held in the Masonic Temple, San Francisco, October, 12-16. Representatives attended from 176 lodges, out of 198 on the roll, and the proceedings cover 327 pages.

The address of the Grand Master, George C. Perkins, has in it the true Masonic ring, and is well worthy of careful perusal. Speaking of the Masons' creed, he says:—

"The creed of a true Mason is to love all mankind, and as far as in his power lies, to do good unto all; not alone by the mere giving of alms, but to do good in every possible manner. If a brother is in the wrong, speak

not of his faults first to another ; for no Mason has the right to speak ill of a brother when he is not present, however true that which he may say. He should go to him, and with words of love and kindness, remind him of his error, whisper to him good counsel, and show to him that Great Light, whence he may glean wisdom to direct, and strength to assist him, and thus win him back to the path of duty and honor."

Which is excellent doctrine in its way, and if universally acted up to, would bring the millenium very close at hand, and show that Masonry means something more than a mere name, which too many of its professors seem to forget.

He also says that

"During the year a large number of questions upon Masonic Law and usage have been submitted for my opinion, most of which have been answered by decisions of my learned predecessors, ratified by Grand Lodge. In research for these various authorities, I have realized the great want to the craft of a proper compilation of a Masonic code ; and should Grand Lodge not deem it expedient to authorize the publication of such a work, I hope some brother may see sufficient inducement to undertake the task as a private enterprise."

A code such as Bro. Perkins seeks, must be essentially a local one, because many of the points raised have their origin in local regulations, which could not become general. Nevertheless, it would be of inestimable value, if carefully compiled, and we hope to receive a copy when completed.

To excessive initiation and affiliation fees he gives no quarter, believing that they tend to defeat the objects contemplated, and degrade the Fraternity. He says :—

"I have approved quite a large number of amendments to the By-Laws of Lodges, and in a few cases have declined to approve those submitted, for reasons deemed sufficient. In two instances have I given my approval contrary to my own judgment. I should have withheld it until I had submitted them for your action, had not the precedent been established by approval of similar amendments in former years. One case was the increasing of the fee for degrees to \$100, and the affiliation fee to \$25. The other case increased the affiliation fee to \$20. These amendments are in striking contrast with the great majority of amendments adopted by other Lodges, which have reduced the degree fee to the minimum fixed by the constitution, and have entirely abolished the affiliation fee, or fixed it at the nominal sum of \$1. This, I think, is more in harmony with the true spirit of our Order."

In regard to Lodges appearing in public processions in Masonic clothing, or at Masonic balls given under the auspices of the fraternity, he in all cases denied the request,—and says :

"I am fully persuaded that the public display of a Masonic procession not in the discharge of some strictly Masonic duty, but parading for the purpose of appearing conspicuous and attracting attention, is not acting in conformity with the teachings of the very symbols which are exhibited. The profane, not having the beauties of our lessons revealed to them, see no significance in these emblems, and by their criticism delight to bring discredit rather than honor to our Venerable Order."

The Golden State fully appreciates the value of Masonry, as no less than seven emergent Communications were called during the year for the purpose of laying corner stones, and the Grand Master speaks in glowing terms of the treatment the Craft received on these occasions.

We fully agree with and recommend to notice the following paragraph in this excellent address :—

“ This Grand Lodge has heretofore fully indicated its disapproval of advertising Masonically one's business, and I think the time has arrived when some decided action should be taken to prevent Masons from using any Masonic signs, names or emblems in their private business enterprises, either as individuals or as an association, which may induce the public to believe that such enterprises are conducted, maintained or sanctioned by the Fraternity. The only conceivable object Masons can have in thus parading their connection with the Order, is to obtain a credit or patronage which otherwise they would not receive. Such conduct is clearly un-Masonic and destroys the beauty and objects of the Order.”

He feelingly notices the deaths of our late Grand Master, and Grand Secretary, quoting in full the letter of Grand Secretary Mason, announcing the mournful tidings ; and concludes his able address by congratulating the brethren that in their relations with other Grand Bodies, the most fraternal accord continues to exist.

The Grand Secretary says in his report, after stating that the amount received for dues and fees during the current year was \$19,481.61,

“ It is hardly necessary again to record the fact that no Lodge was in arrears for dues at the end of the last fiscal year. That has become chronic in this jurisdiction in consequence, perhaps, of the persistent obstinacy of the Grand Secretary, who rather prefers to have the laws complied with.”

It would be an excellent thing if this “ persistent obstinacy ” were to spread throughout the whole fraternity, as it would save a vast amount of trouble and unpleasantness.

The Grand Treasurer shows an aggregate amount of cash for the current year of \$22,831.60. The Board of Relief of the city of San Francisco shows the sum of \$9,656.77 to the credit of its fund, and the expenditure for the year for charitable purposes \$9,233.07. The number of cases of relief were 148. Among those so helped we find one hailing from Canada to the amount of \$146.50.

The Board also gives a statement of the relief given by it during the past 20 years, amounting to the enormous sum of \$120,756.36.

The Grand Orient of Hungary was fraternally recognized as a regular body, and representatives exchanged ; Alabama to the contrary, notwithstanding.

The request of the Grand Lodge of Colombia, for inter-

ference on behalf of the Cubans in their struggle for independence, was not approved ; the Committee judiciously reporting that :—

“It is an inflexible rule of this Grand Lodge not to interfere or meddle with religion or politics, at home or abroad. Masonry having its own proper objects and purposes, those must be considered to the absolute exclusion of all others, and particularly of such as would certainly arouse contention and confusion. Of religion, we only desire to know that each one asking admission is a sincere believer in God and a future existence ; of politics, that the applicant is a good citizen. These questions are determined before admission. Once admitted, all discussions upon and considerations of religious and political affairs are strictly prohibited.”

The usual able report upon Foreign Correspondence, is from the facile pen of Grand Secretary Abell, who in his 51 pages notices Canada for 1874.

M. W. Bro. John Mills Browne, was elected Grand Master, and V. W. Bro. A. G. Abell, re-elected Grand Secretary.

COLORADO—1875.

Annual Communication (15th) held in the Masonic Hall, Denver, September, 21-22. Representatives present from 11 Lodges, out of 19 on roll.

Grand Master W. D. Anthony delivered a short, practical address, but it contains little of general interest. The following suggestion, however, is a step in the right direction :—

“It has been suggested that the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be hereafter printed by your Committee, and circulated among the members of Grand Lodge, thirty days previous to our Annual Session. This I am persuaded, would be quite advantageous, and I heartily concur in the suggestion. The report of this Committee cannot be read and discussed in open Lodge, on account of the time it would consume ; but were it printed and in the hands of the members before the Grand Lodge meets they would already be familiar with its contents, and such changes could be therein made, as would be considered necessary.”

He reports that the order is prosperous throughout the jurisdiction, and that peace and harmony prevail.

The day previous to the regular Communication a special meeting was held at Boulder, to lay the corner stone of the Territorial University of Colorado, which was performed with much *eclat*, although a drenching storm prevailed while the ceremony was progressing. In the evening the Grand Orator addressed a large assemblage in eloquent terms, upon the Principles of the Fraternity, after which festivities were kept up for several hours.

An Amended Constitution for the Grand Lodge, and a code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges, were submitted and approved.

The Grand Master reports that, a brother applied for a demit, so as to become *unaffiliated*, which was refused, unless he expressed intentions to unite with some other Lodge.

If this is the law in Colorado, the sooner they amend it the better. It is not *Free* Masonry.

A brother's claim of \$200, for advance to a distressed brother from Auburn, N. Y., was discussed, and finally referred to their grand representative near New York, for presentation and adjustment.

This claim raises the question of outside liabilities for benevolent advances to transient brethren; we deny the right to claim, unless the advance was made by authority of the Auburn Lodge, which should not be otherwise called upon to reimburse.

Receipts of year (including balance in hand), \$5,406.68; expended \$1,539.25; balance in treasury \$3,867.43.

The Grand Secretary states that no report on Foreign Correspondence appears, for the reason that one of the Committee who was to have prepared it, had failed to do so.

M. W. Bro. Oren. B. Henry, was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. Ed. C. Parmelee, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT—1876.

Annual Communication (88th) held in the Masonic Hall, Hartford, January 19. Representatives attended from 110 Lodges, out of 116 on the roll.

Grand Master Wm. W. Lee alludes in his address to the attendance of delegates during the sessions of Grand Lodge, and strongly reprobates a practice which is too common in many jurisdictions—that of the indifferent delegate in most cases, as soon as Grand Lodge is formed, going off on his pleasure or business, and leaving the burden of the work to be performed by the careful and conscientious Mason, who has the interests of the Order at heart, and performs his duty; and who in the natural order of things, comes in most justly for a fair share of the honors; in which case the drone, who has done nothing, will whine and grumble, about cliques and rings, while if he had attended to his duty as a Mason, he would have received due honor and had his services recognized at their full value.

“By their works ye shall know them.”

“It has been the custom in years past for a delegate to go to the Secretary's desk, see that his name is recorded, and then go his own way, at his will and pleasure. The result usually is, that during the transaction of our most important business, nearly one-half the Subordinates will be unrepresented. Brethren, this ought not so to be. You who have come here

as the representatives of your various Lodges, have accepted a trust which honor and good faith demand that you should discharge to the best of your ability, and the calls of business or pleasure should be postponed until after the close of Grand Lodge. Under our practice, many of the delegates return to their Lodges in as complete ignorance of what has been done in Grand Lodge, as if they had not been here at all."

The following paragraph on Legislation is worth notice :—

"Two things are greatly needed in the Masonic world : First, we want to curtail the law. A little law is a good thing, because it is essential to a wise administration of justice ; Second, we want to curtail Masonic Lawyers, because Masonry is a law unto herself ; therefore has little or no need of them. Solon compared the people to the sea, and Orators and Counsellors to the winds, for that the sea would be calm and quiet, if the winds did not disturb it.

Herein is the gist of the whole matter ; we may not have a surplus of Orators, but to Counsellors there is no end ; and as a natural consequence we have superabundance of law ; and turn which way we will, we are confronted with Masonic jurisprudence, until it becomes a mischief, and determines in a curse to the institution. We have suffered the usages of the Order to be manipulated by cunning fingers, until our prerogative to enjoy Masonry in these latter days is predicated solely upon cash, thereby crushing out, and worst of all crowding out—first, the nobler qualities of the heart ; second, the brother who has not the wherewithal to pay his dues.

This may be so in Connecticut ; but in Canada no worthy brother is "crowded out" because of not being able to pay dues. A ready disposition prevails here to remit dues in all cases of honest poverty or misfortune, where false pride is not allowed to interfere or suppress facts.

He next refers in strong terms to the matter of compulsory dues, and while not denying that dues may be necessary to sustain Lodges, considers the present mode of levying them an innovation on true Masonry. His views on this subject are worthy of consideration, affecting as they do the well being of the Order at the present time. He closes a careful and very judicious address, with a brief reference to those lights of Masonry who have gone before him, and to his own declining years.

No decisions were called for during the session, as the Grand Master's judicious advice was cheerfully accepted in all cases of dispute.

The committee on *dues* reported that since the present system of collecting dues came in force, nearly 1,200 members have been dropped for non-payment. They recommended :—

That no Master Mason, of (21) years' good and regular standing, shall be subject to discipline for non-payment of dues ; also, that the several Lodges be recommended to restore to full membership, without payment of arrears, any member who at the time of being so dropped, was of 21 years' good and regular standing.

The receipts for the year were \$1,464.50, besides \$700 balance in hand. Invested funds for Foundation Fund of Masonic Charity, \$1,704.01. The Treasurer advanced \$60.03 to defray the year's expenses—which sum is now due him.

The proceedings are neatly published in 124 pages, of which 64 are devoted to Foreign Correspondence, Canada for 1875 being fraternally noticed.

M. W. Bro. Edward B. Rowe was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary.

DAKOTA—1875.

A convention of delegates from five Lodges in this Territory was held at Elk Point, Dakota, on June 21st to 24th, for the purpose of establishing a Grand Lodge for their supreme government.

After prayer, the brethren proceeded to permanent organization, by electing W. Bro. F. J. Dewitt, President, and W. Bro. Mark W. Bailey, Secretary.

A committee was next appointed to draft and report a constitution and code of by-laws for the Grand Lodge, and on the following day the report was received and adopted.

The convention then elected officers as follows,—

M. W. Bro. Thos. H. Brown, Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. F. J. Dewitt, Deputy Grand Master.

“ “ “ E. G. Shaw, Grand Senior Warden.

“ “ “ H. H. Blair, Grand Junior Warden.

“ “ “ Geo. J. Hand, Grand Treasurer.

“ “ “ Mark W. Bailey, Grand Secretary.

The usual routine business was next attended to, including appointment of subordinate officers, when the convention adjourned, to meet at the call of the Grand Master and Grand Wardens elect, for constitution and installation; which was subsequently performed by Past Grand Master Parvin, of Iowa, who conducted the ceremonies most impressively, after the brethren had listened to an eloquent sermon in the Baptist Church by Bro. the Rev. J. H. Magoffin.

Thus legally organized and proclaimed, with the approval of the Mother Grand Lodge, this young sister finished its business, and now seeks fraternal recognition from other Grand Lodges.

Canada greets you, Dakota, and wishes you God speed.

DELAWARE—1874-5.

Annual Communication (68th) held in the Masonic Hall

Wilmington, October 7-8. Representatives present from 20 Lodges, out of 27 on the roll—7 of which appear defunct.

M. W. Bro. J. P. Allmond, Grand Master, delivered a sound, practical address, in which he calls particular attention to the abuses perpetrated under the secrecy of the ballot, quoting the well-phrased language of the Grand Master of Missouri on the subject, who truly says :—

“Some plain words on ‘the abuses of the secret ballot’ are needed. No Mason of any experience will deny that these abuses exist ; scarcely any one but has known some palpable instance of wrong being perpetrated through the ballot-box. A sacred right to the many, has apparently given a few the right to do wrong, which admits of no redress. To remove the wrong would be to root up the right. In our immutable constitutions the Great Charter of Freemasonry itself was locked up for safety, and the key purposely lost. Conceived and brought forth in truth, it admits of no change but growth and the natural development of its vital organism, and it was intrusted to pure hands. These conditions preserved, it is perfect ; but, in its contact and struggle with human passions, its very perfections are sometimes distorted into blemishes, and made the means of injustice. It is to be deeply regretted that there are those in the Order who are so far from being Masons as to seize on the ballot-box as an instrument of vengeance. * * * * * The evil is not wide spread, nor is it contagious, but it roots itself like a cancer in the body of a Lodge where it exists, and slowly but surely wastes it away. Some of our Lodges are now suffering from it, and from the highest enjoyment of health, peace and prosperity, they have been plunged into the depths of weakness and despondency ; their energy and activity are lost, and they lie torpid and languishing, as it were pulseless, on the bed of death.

All this simply because one member, perhaps, has been disappointed in his aspirations for office ; annoyed by the rejection of the petition of a friend or relative ; or because some accused brother was not expelled. Forgetful of the high power he wields for good or evil ; oblivious of his duty as a Mason, and even forswearing his honor as a man, he resorts to the revenge of the ballot-box, and hides himself behind its unquestionable right and inviolable secrecy. He strikes at the vitals of Masonic fellowship, and from that moment the Lodge is dead.

Instances have occurred in which this destroying spirit assumed a bolder attitude, and proclaimed in the Lodge and out of it, in private and public, on the streets and highways, that no more work should be done in — Lodge, as every application would be blackballed—the dissatisfied Mason himself announcing that he would do the deed. In such cases there is speedy redress in charges of ‘gross unmasonic’ conduct, and expulsion from the sanctuary so wantonly profaned.

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It is the covert foe from which the Lodge suffers most. He is truly a serpent in a dove’s nest, and, as he enjoys his revenges in secrecy, wherever he is, or whoever he may be, he is not likely to charge that the epithet above applies personally and particularly to him. He will know it himself, and keep it among his other Masonic secrets.

Let him keep the secret, and let him resolve henceforth to be a man and a Mason. Let him realize, if he never did before, the essential purity of the thing he has soiled, and the solemnity of the privileges with which

he has been trifling, and he will not have read these words in vain. He will thereafter use the secret ballot as contemplated in the design and structure of Freemasonry—the guard of purity, the keynote of harmony, and the seal of honor. He will feel himself free from the tyranny of petty spite, and once more a reasonable, responsible, independent man. He will realize with a keen sensibility the truth of these words:—

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Relating to the selection of officers by Lodges, he says:—

“Select the best men you have, and be particularly careful in your selection of Junior Warden, whose duty it is to superintend the Craft whilst at refreshments; it is he who has charge of the Craft from the moment the Lodge is closed until it is opened again. The duties of the Junior Warden are such that it requires more than ordinary vigilance, and great strength of character to perform them. It is his duty to see that temperance, fortitude, charity, and a tongue of good report shall prevail among the fraternity, and when those and other cardinal principles, well known among you, are perverted or set aside, it is his duty, his obligation, to bring the offending brother to a speedy trial before his Lodge.”

“On the Junior Warden, depends the watchful care and superintendence of the whole fabric of Freemasonry, while the brethren are at refreshments, while they are performing the various complex functions pertaining to human existence he should have over them an ever watchful eye. Then be sure to select a Junior Warden, that has the courage to perform the duties of his office; let him first ‘admonish a fallen brother,’ and try to reclaim him from his folly, and, if he fail in this, prefer charges against him, and prosecute them to the end, that the Lodge may be purged. Look well to the south my brethren.”

Of Committees upon Candidates, he is equally forcible in his views.

“Having spoken of the Junior Warden, I have thought it would not be out of place to say a word for the guidance of the Master in appointing his Committees on the petitions of applicants for initiation. The duties of each member of such Committees, are manifold in number and big with importance. As the superintending architect of a building would scrutinize closely stone from a disreputable quarry, no matter by whom presented, he would examine it with reference to its individual qualities. So the brother appointed upon an applicant’s petition, must proceed in a like cautious manner. Let the Committee always bear in mind that they represent the Lodge that appointed them. You act for it—examine for it—report to it—and, in a word you really form opinion for its final action. I would recommend that no newly made Mason be placed upon such a committee. It requires broad experience and ripe knowledge. I am of the opinion that the interest of the Lodge would be advanced if every such

Committee had a Past Master at its head. The report made should not be simply 'favorable or unfavorable,' but set forth the facts of the investigation, that all present may be enabled to form an opinion of the Masonic qualities, or rather requisites possessed by the applicant. The present mode of making reports has led, will ever lead, to looseness in this all important duty."

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"In the descriptions of the funeral rites, we notice that the service of the Church of England was first read, and the Masonic burial ceremonies then followed. Was it necessary to perform *two* services over these brothers? Was it not, in fact, burying them *twice*?"

Not at all, it is the practice in England and Canada to give precedence to the service of the church to which a deceased brother belonged and then follow with the Masonic ceremony, which was all that was done in this case.

Funds available and Hall stock \$1,163.10

M. W. Geo. W. Chaytor, Grand Master; R. W. Wm. S. Hayes, Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1874-75.

Annual Communication (64th) held in the Masonic Temple, Washington, November 11th, 1874. Representatives present from 19 Lodges out of 20 on roll. Two Special Communications also reported—one to dedicate a New Temple at Brightwood, and the other for general semi-annual business.

The question of mixed funerals is dealt with in a report from a Committee appointed at the last Annual Communication. It is the old story over again, of attempted infringement of Masonic rights by new societies and orders. We are glad to notice that a firm stand was taken by this Grand Lodge to vindicate the old-established custom of exclusive charge of a funeral or public ceremony when under Masonic care, as embodied in the following resolution:—

"That in the burial of a deceased brother by a Masonic Lodge, or in the performance of other Masonic labor in public, the control by the Lodge must be absolute, and that while the Lodge is exercising that control no non-Masonic organization shall be permitted to participate."

Grand Master Stansbury delivered an address marked by

The Golden State fully appreciates the value of Masonry, as no less than seven emergent Communications were called during the year for the purpose of laying corner stones, and the Grand Master speaks in glowing terms of the treatment the Craft received on these occasions.

We fully agree with and recommend to notice the following paragraph in this excellent address :—

“ This Grand Lodge has heretofore fully indicated its disapproval of advertising Masonically one's business, and I think the time has arrived when some decided action should be taken to prevent Masons from using any Masonic signs, names or emblems in their private business enterprises, either as individuals or as an association, which may induce the public to believe that such enterprises are conducted, maintained or sanctioned by the Fraternity. The only conceivable object Masons can have in thus parading their connection with the Order, is to obtain a credit or patronage which otherwise they would not receive. Such conduct is clearly unmasonic and destroys the beauty and objects of the Order.”

He feelingly notices the deaths of our late Grand Master, and Grand Secretary, quoting in full the letter of Grand Secretary Mason, announcing the mournful tidings ; and concludes his able address by congratulating the brethren that in their relations with other Grand Bodies, the most fraternal accord continues to exist.

The Grand Secretary says in his report, after stating that the amount received for dues and fees during the current year was \$19,481.61,

“ It is hardly necessary again to record the fact that no Lodge was in arrears for dues at the end of the last fiscal year. That has become chronic in this jurisdiction in consequence, perhaps, of the persistent obstinacy of the Grand Secretary, who rather prefers to have the laws complied with.”

It would be an excellent thing if this “ persistent obstinacy ” were to spread throughout the whole fraternity, as it would save a vast amount of trouble and unpleasantness.

The Grand Treasurer shows an aggregate amount of cash for the current year of \$22,831.60. The Board of Relief of the city of San Francisco shows the sum of \$9,656.77 to the credit of its fund, and the expenditure for the year for charitable purposes \$9,233.07. The number of cases of relief were 148. Among those so helped we find one hailing from Canada to the amount of \$146.50.

The Board also gives a statement of the relief given by it during the past 20 years, amounting to the enormous sum of \$120,756.36.

The Grand Orient of Hungary was fraternally recognized as a regular body, and representatives exchanged ; Alabama to the contrary, notwithstanding.

The request of the Grand Lodge of Colombia, for inter-

ference on behalf of the Cubans in their struggle for independence, was not approved ; the Committee judiciously reporting that :—

“ It is an inflexible rule of this Grand Lodge not to interfere or meddle with religion or politics, at home or abroad. Masonry having its own proper objects and purposes, those must be considered to the absolute exclusion of all others, and particularly of such as would certainly arouse contention and confusion. Of religion, we only desire to know that each one asking admission is a sincere believer in God and a future existence ; of politics, that the applicant is a good citizen. These questions are determined before admission. Once admitted, all discussions upon and considerations of religious and political affairs are strictly prohibited.”

The usual able report upon Foreign Correspondence, is from the facile pen of Grand Secretary Abell, who in his 51 pages notices Canada for 1874.

M. W. Bro. John Mills Browne, was elected Grand Master, and V. W. Bro. A. G. Abell, re-elected Grand Secretary.

COLORADO—1875.

Annual Communication (15th) held in the Masonic Hall, Denver, September, 21-22. Representatives present from 11 Lodges, out of 19 on roll.

Grand Master W. D. Anthony delivered a short, practical address, but it contains little of general interest. The following suggestion, however, is a step in the right direction :—

“ It has been suggested that the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be hereafter printed by your Committee, and circulated among the members of Grand Lodge, thirty days previous to our Annual Session. This I am persuaded, would be quite advantageous, and I heartily concur in the suggestion. The report of this Committee cannot be read and discussed in open Lodge, on account of the time it would consume ; but were it printed and in the hands of the members before the Grand Lodge meets they would already be familiar with its contents, and such changes could be therein made, as would be considered necessary.”

He reports that the order is prosperous throughout the jurisdiction, and that peace and harmony prevail.

The day previous to the regular Communication a special meeting was held at Boulder, to lay the corner stone of the Territorial University of Colorado, which was performed with much *eclat*, although a drenching storm prevailed while the ceremony was progressing. In the evening the Grand Orator addressed a large assemblage in eloquent terms, upon the Principles of the Fraternity, after which festivities were kept up for several hours.

An Amended Constitution for the Grand Lodge, and a code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges, were submitted and approved.

The Grand Master reports that, a brother applied for a demit, so as to become *unaffiliated*, which was refused, unless he expressed intentions to unite with some other Lodge.

If this is the law in Colorado, the sooner they amend it the better. It is not *Free* Masonry.

A brother's claim of \$200, for advance to a distressed brother from Auburn, N. Y., was discussed, and finally referred to their grand representative near New York, for presentation and adjustment.

This claim raises the question of outside liabilities for benevolent advances to transient brethren; we deny the right to claim, unless the advance was made by authority of the Auburn Lodge, which should not be otherwise called upon to reimburse.

Receipts of year (including balance in hand), \$5,406.68; expended \$1,539.25; balance in treasury \$3,867.43.

The Grand Secretary states that no report on Foreign Correspondence appears, for the reason that one of the Committee who was to have prepared it, had failed to do so.

M. W. Bro. Oren. B. Henry, was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. Ed. C. Parmelee, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT—1876.

Annual Communication (88th) held in the Masonic Hall, Hartford, January 19. Representatives attended from 110 Lodges, out of 116 on the roll.

Grand Master Wm. W. Lee alludes in his address to the attendance of delegates during the sessions of Grand Lodge, and strongly reprobates a practice which is too common in many jurisdictions—that of the indifferent delegate in most cases, as soon as Grand Lodge is formed, going off on his pleasure or business, and leaving the burden of the work to be performed by the careful and conscientious Mason, who has the interests of the Order at heart, and performs his duty; and who in the natural order of things, comes in most justly for a fair share of the honors; in which case the drone, who has done nothing, will whine and grumble, about cliques and rings, while if he had attended to his duty as a Mason, he would have received due honor and had his services recognized at their full value.

“By their works ye shall know them.”

“It has been the custom in years past for a delegate to go to the Secretary's desk, see that his name is recorded, and then go his own way, at his will and pleasure. The result usually is, that during the transaction of our most important business, nearly one-half the Subordinates will be unrepresented. Brethren, this ought not so to be. You who have come here

as the representatives of your various Lodges, have accepted a trust which honor and good faith demand that you should discharge to the best of your ability, and the calls of business or pleasure should be postponed until after the close of Grand Lodge. Under our practice, many of the delegates return to their Lodges in as complete ignorance of what has been done in Grand Lodge, as if they had not been here at all."

The following paragraph on Legislation is worth notice :—

"Two things are greatly needed in the Masonic world : First, we want to curtail the law. A little law is a good thing, because it is essential to a wise administration of justice ; Second, we want to curtail Masonic Lawyers, because Masonry is a law unto herself ; therefore has little or no need of them. Solon compared the people to the sea, and Orators and Counsellors to the winds, for that the sea would be calm and quiet, if the winds did not disturb it.

Herein is the gist of the whole matter ; we may not have a surplus of Orators, but to Counsellors there is no end ; and as a natural consequence we have superabundance of law ; and turn which way we will, we are confronted with Masonic jurisprudence, until it becomes a mischief, and determines in a curse to the institution. We have suffered the usages of the Order to be manipulated by cunning fingers, until our prerogative to enjoy Masonry in these latter days is predicated solely upon cash, thereby crushing out, and worst of all crowding out—first, the nobler qualities of the heart ; second, the brother who has not the wherewithal to pay his dues.

This may be so in Connecticut ; but in Canada no worthy brother is "crowded out" because of not being able to pay dues. A ready disposition prevails here to remit dues in all cases of honest poverty or misfortune, where false pride is not allowed to interfere or suppress facts.

He next refers in strong terms to the matter of compulsory dues, and while not denying that dues may be necessary to sustain Lodges, considers the present mode of levying them an innovation on true Masonry. His views on this subject are worthy of consideration, affecting as they do the well being of the Order at the present time. He closes a careful and very judicious address, with a brief reference to those lights of Masonry who have gone before him, and to his own declining years.

No decisions were called for during the session, as the Grand Master's judicious advice was cheerfully accepted in all cases of dispute.

The committee on *dues* reported that since the present system of collecting dues came in force, nearly 1,200 members have been dropped for non-payment. They recommended :—

That no Master Mason, of (21) years' good and regular standing, shall be subject to discipline for non-payment of dues ; also, that the several Lodges be recommended to restore to full membership, without payment of arrears, any member who at the time of being so dropped, was of 21 years' good and regular standing.

The receipts for the year were \$1,464.50, besides \$700 balance in hand. Invested funds for Foundation Fund of Masonic Charity, \$1,704.01. The Treasurer advanced \$60.03 to defray the year's expenses—which sum is now due him.

The proceedings are neatly published in 124 pages, of which 64 are devoted to Foreign Correspondence, Canada for 1875 being fraternally noticed.

M. W. Bro. Edward B. Rowe was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary.

DAKOTA—1875.

A convention of delegates from five Lodges in this Territory was held at Elk Point, Dakota, on June 21st to 24th, for the purpose of establishing a Grand Lodge for their supreme government.

After prayer, the brethren proceeded to permanent organization, by electing W. Bro. F. J. Dewitt, President, and W. Bro. Mark W. Bailey, Secretary.

A committee was next appointed to draft and report a constitution and code of by-laws for the Grand Lodge, and on the following day the report was received and adopted.

The convention then elected officers as follows,—

M. W. Bro. Thos. H. Brown, Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. F. J. Dewitt, Deputy Grand Master.

“ “ “ E. G. Shaw, Grand Senior Warden.

“ “ “ H. H. Blair, Grand Junior Warden.

“ “ “ Geo. J. Hand, Grand Treasurer.

“ “ “ Mark W. Bailey, Grand Secretary.

The usual routine business was next attended to, including appointment of subordinate officers, when the convention adjourned, to meet at the call of the Grand Master and Grand Wardens elect, for constitution and installation; which was subsequently performed by Past Grand Master Parvin, of Iowa, who conducted the ceremonies most impressively, after the brethren had listened to an eloquent sermon in the Baptist Church by Bro. the Rev. J. H. Magoffin.

Thus legally organized and proclaimed, with the approval of the Mother Grand Lodge, this young sister finished its business, and now seeks fraternal recognition from other Grand Lodges.

Canada greets you, Dakota, and wishes you God speed.

DELAWARE—1874-5.

Annual Communication (68th) held in the Masonic Hall

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M. W. Bro. J. P. Allmond, Grand Master, delivered a sound, practical address, in which he calls particular attention to the abuses perpetrated under the secrecy of the ballot, quoting the well-phrased language of the Grand Master of Missouri on the subject, who truly says:—

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much ability, in which he deals with the interests of the Craft at home and abroad.

Of the Earl of Ripon's perversion to the Romish faith, and consequent resignation as Grand Master of Masons in England, shortly after receiving so brilliant a reception from the Washingtonians—he says :—

“I have no apprehension that this event will have any injurious effect upon our Fraternity. It is too firmly grounded in the principles and needs of human nature to be shaken by the defection of any one man, however high his Masonic position or social rank. As between the Fraternity and the late Grand Master of England, I should regard the latter as the more proper object of condolence and commiseration.”

He reports the visitation of every Lodge in the jurisdiction by himself or deputy, and the delivery of a series of instructive lectures by distinguished brethren, the effect of which he pronounces “elevating and salutary.” He also submits particulars of a difficulty between two Lodges, concerning a candidate, that has elicited much discussion, and upon which the Jurisprudence Committee were divided in their report. The pith of the question at issue is this : In 1869, Lebanon Lodge balloted for Mr. P., and accepted him for initiation. Objection was then raised, which checked the initiation, and his fee was returned. Five years afterwards he applied to Stansbury Lodge for initiation and was accepted. Lebanon Lodge hearing of this, claimed P. as still under its control, and protested against his initiation. On reference to the Grand Master, he counselled caution, and not to proceed without his authority. This advice seems to have been misunderstood, for subsequently Mr. P. was initiated in Stansbury Lodge without such authority. The point to determine is, therefore, did the return of the fee to P. terminate Lebanon Lodge's property in the candidate, or has it perpetual jurisdiction over him? The Grand Master holds that as the name of the objector cannot be found, and it is not known that he is now a member of Lebanon Lodge, the refund closed the claim, after which P. was at liberty to apply anywhere. On this the Grand Master says :—

“If, the very next day, the objection had been withdrawn, Mr. P. could only have come before that Lodge, as before any other Lodge, by a new petition and fee, just as any other profane would have to do. Had the Lodge given him a single degree, or begun to give him one, the case would have been quite different. It would then have fallen within the ancient prohibition in reference to finishing the work begun by another. But no work had been begun upon this applicant. He had never entered the Masonic Lodge or come under the hands of the workman. The mere inspection of a rough ashlar to see whether it is fit to have work commenced upon it or not, is nothing more than an examination ; it is not

work. The ashlar here was inspected and passed by without hammer or chisel being uplifted, or the workman's mark impressed upon it."

A majority of the Jurisprudence Committee, of which Bro. Albert G. Mackey was chairman, report in favor of Lebanon Lodge, but exonerate Stansbury Lodge from blame, as it was supposed to have acted under the G. M's. advice—which report was adopted by the Grand Lodge after much discussion.

A minority of the Committee, in equally logical terms, report against any such interpretation, and hold with the G. M. that a limitation of objection should prevail after a certain time, say five years, when a candidate placed as was Mr. P. should have the right to apply to any other Lodge, and receive the degrees if accepted. The majority base their report upon local regulations affecting the case, which may or may not be correct; but the minority have equity and common sense on their side to a much greater extent than their adversaries, and on this ground we are strongly inclined to side with them.

The Grand Master also urges the raising of funds to complete the Washington Monument before the Centennial year; generous support to Mutual Relief Associations; building up of a good library; revision of the constitution; thinks a gallery of portraits of Past Grand Masters would be much prized; and closes his sterling address with thanks to his associate officers for cordial assistance during his term.

The record shows \$4,298.16 expended by 19 Lodges for benevolence; and the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in hand of \$1,121.53.

An elaborate report on Foreign Correspondence appears from Bro. W. R. Singleton, who wields a skilful pen, and seems to understand his business. 47 Grand Lodges reviewed, including Canada 3½ pages for 1873. He is sadly astray as to Canada "surrendering her views" in the Quebec difficulty, out of *deference* to "the overwhelming influence of the large majority of Grand Lodge decisions against her." So far from this being the case, Canada never allowed the *decision* of any Grand Lodge to influence her an iota in the course pursued to vindicate her rights. It was deference to the wishes of her own loyal members living in Quebec that influenced her to permit the concessions which happily led to fraternal solutions. The dictatorial spirit shown in several of these "*decisions*" was so arrogant and offensive that Canada ignored them *in toto*, preferring to let time and reflection do what such *decisions* would have never accomplished. As the trouble arose with her own subordinates, so they themselves amicably settled it, without outside interference of any kind.

And so we trust a true sense of her own dignity will always impel her to act.

M. W. Bro. Isaac L. Johnson, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. W. A. Yates, Grand Secretary.

Annual Communication (65th) held in same place and city, November 10, 1875. Representatives from 17 Lodges present.

Grand Master Johnson's address was mainly devoted to local matters, and the usual routine, references and reports. Death, he says, has stricken from their roll several distinguished brethren, whose loss is feelingly deplored. The Lebanon case is referred to as settled ; Mr. P. being handed over to it for his second and third degrees ; several decisions of minor import are noted ; the distress in Kansas relieved ; the progress of the library reported ; aid to furnish the Washington Monument urged ; and a detail given of visitations made. He thus refers to beggars and impostors, nuisances with which we are as much afflicted as our neighbors.

"In many instances we have been compelled to limit in amount our contributions to those who most need our assistance, in consequence of the large share of our charity funds having been expended upon persons whose chief object in gaining admission into our institution appears to have been that of living upon the liberality of the Craft ; persons who travel from one jurisdiction to another, and from Lodge to Lodge, having no other desire or ambition than that of being Masonic beggars. In addition to these, there are travelling impostors who always seek an opportunity to call upon a brother at a time when business cannot be neglected, or an examination made, knowing that a Mason would rather make a contribution at a venture than turn a brother away unaided. Against these impostors we must protect ourselves, that we may be better prepared to assist worthy Masons coming from abroad, whose necessities compel them to seek Masonic aid. Believing it to be my duty to protect every interest of the Craft of our jurisdiction, I call the attention of the Lodge officers to this subject. From the desire manifested by them to accomplish this object, I feel confident a plan will be adopted by which we can keep a complete record of all applicants for charity, their standing, where they claim membership, the jurisdiction to which they belong, and the amount contributed in charity. To select one particular place to which all applicants may be referred, when a thorough investigation can be made, and speedy relief given to such as may prove themselves worthy of our assistance.

A Committee of five was appointed to "revise the ritual and introduce such improvement as will enable candidates more clearly to understand the ceremonies ;" to "add to the opening ceremonies those *essential features* which for years have been omitted," and generally to "recommend such changes in language as will make the ritual uniform with those used in most United States jurisdictions."

Bro. Singleton was authorized as Historian to carry out his views in the publication of the History of Masonry in his State.

500 copies in paper covers, and 500 in muslin covers—1 copy to be sent to each Grand Lodge for its library.

Bro. Singleton's Foreign Correspondence grows on in his hands—51 Grand Lodges in 264 well digested pages, Canada for 1874-5, occupying six and a half pages. His extracts are judiciously selected; his comments are racy and with few exceptions good; and where necessary, the scalpel is applied with vigor. We hope our predecessor will furnish him with one of his "patent condensers" to boil down his report from 264 to 88 pages; but if he uses it, the Craft will lose many of the gems with which he and two or three others manage to garnish their deeply interesting reviews.

M. W. Bro. J. L. Johnson, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. W. R. Singleton, Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA—1875-6.

Annual Communication (46th) held in Masonic Hall, Tallahassee, January 12, 1875. Representatives present from 31 Lodges, out of 58 on roll.

Grand Master A. J. Russell delivered an interesting address on matters pertinent to his jurisdiction, in which Masonry flourishes like a green bay tree. After thanking the G. A. O. T. U. for his many mercies, in sparing them again to reassemble, he dwells with much force upon "the benign influence Masonry has exerted in allying sectional strife, political asperity, and bitterness of soul growing out of the late fratricidal war; the Lodge presenting a platform upon which men of every political and religious creed do meet and shake hands, in exemplifying the universal brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God." He further says:—

"In many instances, brethren from afar, stricken by disease, have in vain come hither to regain lost health: and these have received a brotherly care, that quietly and unostentatiously proclaimed the beautiful influence of our Fraternity upon the human heart. During days and weeks of lingering illness, those afflicted ones have had their pillows smoothed, consolation administered, and their last dying words and wishes conveyed to loved ones at home, and then their bodies reverently conveyed to the silent sepulchre. Thus have the Lodges been engaged, doing good unto others, cultivating brotherly love, and showing to the world the blessings which Masonry is capable of disseminating."

He rejoices at the settlement of the Quebec difficulty; reports four new Lodges opened; cites dispensations issued, and decisions given; urges adoption of a revised ritual, and closes with words of fraternal good-will to all.

The District reports all show careful supervision, and that one pilgrim father, aged 73, has labored 49 years in the Masonic

vineyard. This venerable brother travelled, by his own conveyance, nearly 400 miles to inspect his District, and says, "while I feel that my career is drawing to a close, I sincerely regret that I have done so little for an institution that I love so much."

Bro. Dawkins apologizes for the absence of his Foreign Correspondence report, caused by illness. We sincerely sympathise with him in his affliction. Having prepared this report under similar circumstances, we can fully enter into his feelings. His 3-page summary forms a good substitute for the missing report.

Quebec and Wyoming cordially recognized ; and Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

Annual Communication (47th) held in Masonic Hall, Jacksonville, January 11th, 1876. Representatives from 43 Lodges present.

The Grand Master's address is practical, as usual. He takes strong ground against the "new day, new duty" bubble emanating from Ohio, anent the recognizing of Negro Grand Lodges which he not inaptly calls "a Centennial Gush." He says that :—

"Grand Master Battin writes beautifully of the Good Samaritan, who pours oil into the nation's wounds, healing them all ; yet he is actually advocating that which, if in these years is effected, would make such wounds upon all the Southern Jurisdiction as I fear would never be healed. Does our brother stop for a moment to consider the vast horde of utterly ignorant negroes, liberated in the South, who aspire to reach after and lay hold of every privilege the white man enjoys ? Does he contemplate this recognition from the Ohio standpoint alone, or has he paused for a moment, to think what this recognition would inflict upon his brethren of the South ? A mass of men utterly ignorant, incapable of appreciating, in the remotest degree, the first principles of Masonry, to be thrust upon us here ; or else the pleasant relations now and heretofore existing throughout our country, even withstanding the ravages and hatred growing out of a fratricidal war, to be fully and forever disrupted and broken ! Our brethren of Ohio should remember the difference in society, as it relates to the colored man there, as well as all over the North and West, and here in Florida, as in all the Southern and formerly slave States."

These views are fully endorsed by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who sensibly discuss the question in all its bearings ; and a subsequent vote of Grand Lodge unanimously confirmed the objections urged.

We heartily coincide with Florida in this matter. Masonry knows no distinction of creed, color, race or party ; and, therefore, should not countenance any effort having for its object the recognition of so-called Colored Masons, or Grand Lodges organized by them. The legitimate Lodges of every

jurisdiction are open to worthy men of all shades of complexion, through their ballot-boxes or on examination; and if colored men pass these crucial tests, as all others have to do, they will always find a fraternal welcome within Lodge portals. To ask more than this is to seek for these people a distinctive preference over all others, to which they have no right, and which, if once conceded, would strike deeply at the fundamental principles of the fraternity.

A revised code of regulations for this Grand Lodge was adopted, containing several excellent provisions of general application.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, covering 100 pages, is by Grand Secretary Dawkins, who notices Canada for 1875 in kindly terms. His selections are judicious, and a racy humor pervades his comments that renders them quite refreshing.

M. W. Bro. Enos Wasgate, G. M. and R. W. Bro. D. C. Dawkins, Grand Secretary re-elected.

ILLINOIS—1875.

Annual Communication (37th) held at McCormick's Hall, Chicago, October 5. Representatives were present from 599 Lodges, out of 737 on the roll.

Grand Master G. E. Lounsbury, in an elaborate and comprehensive address, reviews the business of the past year. He congratulates his Grand Lodge on the prosperity of the Craft, and says that "nothing has occurred since last meeting to disturb the general peace and harmony that exists; and the past Masonic year has been to us a comparatively uneventful one." After reviewing the decisions which have come before him—the petitions, appeals, and cases of discipline dealt with—the cordial relations subsisting with other Grand Lodges—the deaths of distinguished brethren—and the usual work of a well-conducted body, he thus concludes:—"Brethren, I can but congratulate you again on the relative peace and harmony existing in this jurisdiction. We number about 700 constituent Lodges, with a membership of nearly 50,000, and I find on the appeal docket that only about a score of cases appear, which fact speaks volumes for itself." This is a truly noble record that exhibits our Illinois brethren in a very favorable light.

This Grand Lodge has adopted a resolution making it obligatory upon "all strange visitors" to bring with them certificates of good standing from their Lodges, under seal, and not older than six months, before they will be accorded the

right of admission. Our Canadian brethren will therefore do well to prepare accordingly when visiting Illinois.

The Widow and Orphans' Home of Kentucky having been pronounced a permanent success, a similar Home is proposed for Illinois ; in urging which upon the fraternity a special committee report that,—

“ While thousands of dollars are annually contributed for the immediate relief of the suffering poor, systematic supervision would render such relief much more efficient and lasting. For instance, \$50 is given to a poor family to provide fuel, clothing, and necessities for the winter. When spring comes, the family are not only as destitute as in the fall, but no intellectual or moral training has been given the children—no new stimulus to exertion or habits of industry have been inculcated. Let these children be placed in a suitable Home, under competent teachers, governed by wholesome laws, and the \$50 will go far towards supporting them ; and what is of more consequence they will be so instructed that at an early age habits of industry will be acquired, self-respect and a commendable pride will be engendered, and not only will they be able to maintain themselves, and if need be, aid and comfort an aged mother, but they will become lifted up from degradation to fair respectability, and ever after form useful members of society. There is strength and influence in concert of action and unity of purpose.”

We hope the praiseworthy efforts of this committee will be crowned with success ; but a year is to be taken to reflect upon the project before Grand Lodge endorses or commits itself to support it.

After an eloquent appeal from P. G. M. Stansbury, \$1,000 were voted towards completing the Washington Monument, with such additional aid as the private Lodges might see fit to give.

In response to a circular from the English, Irish and Scotch District Grand Masters of New South Wales, cautioning U. S. brethren against receiving visitors from irregular bodies there, known as the Grand Lodge of Memphis, Grand Lodge of Australia, and Grand Lodge of New South Wales—it was decided to refuse admission to all such, and caution was enjoined accordingly.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, by Bro. Joseph Robbins, is of the most exhaustive character, covering no less than 226 pages, 4 of which are devoted to Canada for 1874. In noticing the query of Bro. Robertson as to why American Lodges transact their business in M. M. instead of E. A. Lodges, as in England, Ireland, Scotland and Canada, he says :

“ The departure from the ancient custom ante-dates the origin of the Grand Lodge of Canada, which, following the mother country, still retains it. We are not prepared to trace the reason for our departure from the practice, but we think the seeds were sown in England when they took the honorary distinctions of F. C. and M. M., which were formerly

conferred in E. A. Lodges, and erected them into separate degrees, excluding apprentices from participating therein. Their exclusion from Lodge business followed as a natural result, and the only wonder is, that the Mother Grand Lodge has so long succeeded in retaining the ancient custom. Since the establishment of degrees in Masonry, *the entered apprentice has been robbed of one right after another*, until, in many jurisdictions by separate ballots for each degree, the last and most sacred right, that of invoking in his defence the judgment of his fellows on any charge impairing his standing or interfering with his advancement is practically denied him."

This *departure* probably originated with Webb, when he introduced so many other alterations, that were supposed to render Masonry as then generally practiced, more consistent with the republican feelings growing out of the American revolution. But instead of its being a "natural result" of the modern degree system, it should rather be considered *an unnatural innovation*, unjust in its conception and outrageous in its continuance, for to *rob* a brother of any right, as above admitted, is to do him grievous wrong and outrage the first principles of Masonry.

The receipts of the year were \$36,013; expenses \$30,781; balance in hand \$5,231.

The G. M. and G. Secretary were both re-elected.

INDIANA—1875.

Annual Communication (58th) held in Washington Hall, Indianapolis, May 25-26. Representatives were present from 498 Lodges, out of 514 on the roll.

A Special Communication was also held on May 24, to lay the corner stone of the new grand Masonic Temple, Indianapolis—which was largely attended, and the imposing ceremonies usual on such occasions were conducted with becoming *eclat*; W. Bro. John Cavin, mayor of the city, delivering an admirable address at the close of the proceedings.

The new edifice will be handsome in design, tasteful in outfit, and commodious in arrangement, including accommodation for Grand Secretary, the Lodges, Chapters, Commandery, Consistory and Council, with Committee and Reception rooms. A spacious hall for Grand Lodge Communications is to be added thus completing the premises in every particular. The contract price for the main building is \$67,422, provided for by a loan of \$75,000 on mortgage, payable in 12 years, interest to be 9 per cent., the Hall to be extra. The unoccupied ground adjoining is also to be leased for building purposes, with a view to securing sufficient income to defray all expenses, and ultimately relieve the subordinates of dues for

Grand Lodge purposes. Our Indiana brethren have been very fortunate in their land dealings, which must soon make them one of the wealthiest Masonic corporations on the continent.

Grand Master L. A. Foote opened Grand Lodge with a well-written address, in which he recounts his official acts and decisions. He regrets that illness hindered his visiting the Lodges as he desired ; but he received valuable aid in this respect from the D. G. M. and several P. G. M's., and reports having done "*some writing*" as an offset, answering all sorts of questions, many of which need not have been asked if the writers had only qualified themselves by consulting the laws and usages of the Craft. He congratulates them upon the steady progress apparent from the returns ; but grievances were more numerous than necessary, no less than 29 cases of a personal nature having gone before the Committee, besides Lodge differences on points of jurisdiction.

The records show that quite a number of sentences were reversed, principally because the evidence was not properly recorded during the trials. The decisions given were chiefly on local issues, not involving questions of general interest.

We heartily commend the G. M's. refusal to allow a Lodge to participate in the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of a Jewish Synagogue on Sunday—Sabbath desecration by Freemasons being a violation of the decalogue that no G. M. should countenance. Though Jews may not reverence Sunday, it is the Sabbath of the vast majority of the Craft in America, who should not be asked to do violence to their religious scruples to please Jew or Greek.

The G. M. having ruled that a rejected applicant for affiliation was thereby under the same disability as a rejected profane, in so far as the lapse of time necessary before being again eligible for fresh application, the committee on jurisprudence reversed the ruling, properly holding that a brother's rights in this respect could not be affected in the same manner as a profane's, he being clearly eligible to apply again to the Lodge that rejected him, or to any other, without regard to limitation of time. This is Canadian practice, and we hold it to be soundly equitable.

The same committee reported against a resolution designed to alter the recognized method of conferring the P. M. degree, on the ground that Master Masons are not competent judges, and have no right to legislate upon a matter of which they cannot possibly have any knowledge. Grand Lodge endorsed this report.

On motion of M. W. Bro. Hazelrigg, P. G. M., and the esteemed Representative of this Grand Lodge, near Indiana, the following fraternal resolution of condolence and sympathy was unanimously adopted.

"Whereas, it has been officially communicated to this Grand Lodge that the G. L. of Canada has, during the past year, been sadly bereaved by the deaths of two of its chief officers, Bro. Thos. B. Harris, Grand Secretary, who died in August last, and Bro. Wm. Mercer Wilson, LL.D., Grand Master, who died January 18, 1875. These distinguished brethren and officers of the G. L. of Canada were highly esteemed in the private walks of life for their many virtues, and greatly beloved and honored in their official stations for their devotion to the cause of Freemasonry, and for the ability with which they respectively performed the duties to which they were called by the appreciative suffrages of their brethren. This Grand body was once favored with the personal presence of the late Grand Master W. M. Wilson, and cherishes an endeared remembrance of his fraternal bearing while he mingled with us in our Masonic circle : Therefore, *Resolved*—That we deeply and tenderly sympathize with our brethren of the G. L. of Canada in their mournful bereavement, and to the families and friends of the deceased do we hereby express our unfeigned sorrow for the loss they have sustained in the death of these honored members of our Fraternity. *Resolved*—That memorial pages be assigned to these lamented brethren in the published transactions of this Grand Lodge, and that our Grand Secretary furnish the Grand Lodge of Canada with a copy of these proceedings, certified under seal of the Grand Lodge."

Two tablets "in Memoriam" accordingly appear in the records, bearing the names, rank and dates of death of these beloved brethren, and associated with them is a tablet to the memory of Bro. John Rose, aged 83 years, who was one of the only two survivors then remaining of the cherished band who in 1818 organized the Grand Lodge of Indiana, which he attended over half a century, and was permitted to see grow to the highest measure of prosperity. Peace to their ashes.

Bro. D. McDonald produced a well-written report on Foreign Correspondence, covering 91 pages, in which forty-four Grand Lodges are ably reviewed, including Canada for 1874, in two and a half pages. Referring to the transaction of business in the 1st rather than in the 3rd degree, he says, that "if any valid reason were given" for our plan, "he might enlighten us as to the cause of their departure," but as that plan "is simply an *ancient custom*, perhaps the stability of the order will not be shaken by the difference of practice prevailing in the respective jurisdictions." *Perhaps* not ; but tampering with "ancient custom," and depriving young brethren of rights that should be held sacred, are questionable methods of preserving the landmarks and guarding against "innovations in the body of Masonry."

The reviewer is sound upon the question of full restoration, in the following :—

“When a brother is suspended or expelled by a Subordinate Lodge, and an appeal is taken to the Grand Lodge, and by it set aside, the brother by that action is placed in precisely the same condition he occupied before charges were preferred, both as to his rights as a Mason and as to membership in his Lodge. It is not enough for the Grand Lodge to mete out partial justice to a brother whom it declares to be innocent of the charges preferred against him, but it must render full and impartial justice, ‘freely, and without purchase ; completely, and without denial ; speedily, and without delay.’”

The extracts of this reporter are judiciously chosen, and his comments as a whole have the ring of the true metal in them, notwithstanding his heterodoxy on *ancient custom*, concerning which his bump of veneration will have to undergo liberal development.

We notice with pleasure that the services and ability of Bro. McDonald were so well appreciated by his brethren, as to justify them in placing in his hands the Gavel for the current year. Grand Secretary Bramwell being also re-elected.

IOWA—1875.

Annual Communication (32d) held in Moore's Opera House, Des Moines, June 1st. Representatives present from 223 Lodges, out of 352 on the roll.

Grand Master Chapman reviews the proceedings of the year in a calm, dispassionate style, and refers at length to the various decisions given by him. In the first instance, he deals with “Dancing in Lodge-rooms,” to which he is decidedly opposed ; and we quite agree with his remarks on the subject, being fully of opinion that the “Lodge-room” should be considered “a sacred spot, a holy place, duly consecrated, and to be used only to exemplify the teachings of our order.” Occasions have arisen, and will continue to arise, where Lodge-rooms have been and will be used for festive purposes ; but, as a rule, it would be much better if they were confined exclusively to inculcations of Masonry, for which they were consecrated—a view thoroughly endorsed by Grand Lodge in adopting the report made on the subject. He refers in a most fraternal manner to the honored brethren who have been called during the year to the Grand Lodge above, specially naming Bros. John F. Sandford, P. G. M., John Beach, P. D. G. M., and R. K. McMaster, P. G., Treasurer. We sympathize with Iowa in the loss of these distinguished brethren whose names were so well known to the craft. In his feeling

reference to the "dead of sister jurisdictions," he includes the late M. W. Bros. C. W. Moore, and W. M. Wilson and R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, whose memories will long live in the hearts of all who knew them.

In closing his address he says :

"My official record is before you. If it is in harmony with the customs and usages of the order, and consistent with its laws, approve it. If not, disapprove it. Let us have square work, and avoid, if possible, intricacy and complication. In the discharge of my duty I have had no hesitation, when dealing with hasty legislation or erroneous decisions, in refusing to enforce either—preferring to correct, rather than follow, bad precedents ; holding to the opinion, all things being equal, that a Mason has rights which we, as Masons, are bound to respect ; and moreover, that the landmarks of Masonry are not to be removed, nor its customs and usages infringed upon ; and that with us the law of *might* has nothing in common with the law of *right*."

In thanking the brethren for courtesies received, he declined re-election.

The session was a very interesting one, and the various reports display that marked care and intimate acquaintance with Masonic usage for which Grand Secretary Parvin has become famous. Indeed, the "get up" of the Iowa proceedings stamp them as models that might be copied by other Grand Secretaries with great advantage. What with illuminated initial letters to begin each new subject ; head and tail pieces, specially designed with devices of the craft, and other appropriate embellishments, including photographs of the Grand Officers, steel engravings of Past Grands, and biographical sketches of their leading members ; they may well feel proud of them, and of the talented officer who devotes such scrupulous care in their publication.

M. W. Bro. Henry W. Rothert was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. T. S. Parvin re-elected Grand Secretary.

KANSAS—1875.

Annual Communication (20th) held in Topeka, October 20th.

Pending the Report on Credentials the Grand Master, Owen A. Bassett, delivered a very interesting address on the History of Masonry, from which we take the following :—

"The operative character of the Masonic society during the greater period of its authentic history has induced many to believe that it must have had its origin among the guilds or corporations employed in the erection of the majestic temples and grand monuments which adorn the capitals of Europe. The advocates of this theory claim to have traced its origin through these corporations to the college of builders, reputed to

have been instituted more than seven hundred years before the Christian era, and to have discovered such a resemblance between the initiatory ceremonies, religious observances and forms of government of the two organizations that, aided by the light of Roman history, the relationship is established, the vexed question is solved ; but where is the evidence to form the basis for their conclusions. Is it in the mythical story of the founding of the city, in the popular legends under the guise of history, in the marvelous and romantic traditions which impart a seductive charm to the very name of Roman, or in the poetical rhapsodies, of hero worshippers, embellished by the fictions that fancy loves to wreath around its idols. Less difficult would be the task of restoring the law of the twelve tables from the fragments which have been preserved, than to sift truth from apocryphal history. There is no evidence, hence the argument must fail, and the conclusions be deemed mere vagaries."

The address concludes as follows :—

"Among all of the ideals of a Sovereign of the Universe, the Hebrew Deity alone stands the test of intelligence ; the only living and true God, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob, that God who has been worshipped since He first revealed Himself to man, six thousand years ago, is the God in fact of Masonry, and has been ever since its history can be traced ; and this one fact may be the key to a solution of the subject under consideration, it may furnish the evidence of the real origin of Masonry."

Ninety-nine Lodges were found to be represented. The G. M. then made his Annual Report. On visits he says :—

"Official visitations have been made during the year to a large number of Subordinate Lodges, which it is hoped have proved profitable to all. In every case a kind and fraternal welcome was extended, leaving on the memory many pleasant recollections which time cannot efface. The greater portion of the time devoted to this duty was spent among the younger Lodges, and in the western part of this Jurisdiction, and though their advantages have not been all that could be desired, yet most of them passed a creditable inspection."

And on new Lodges :—

"New Lodges under Dispensation, to the number of five, have been organized since your last meeting ; these, with the three continued from last year, will probably apply for Charters, and if their work shall pass the scrutiny of the experienced Chairman of the Committee entrusted with its examination, you may accept it as well fitted for the structure which you are erecting. A number of applications for new Lodges have been refused, and while it may be unnecessary to explain the reasons which prompted such action, it may not be inappropriate to remark that it was not considered prudent to increase the number when so many were struggling for the requisite means to continue their existence."

On the question of color he sensibly remarks :—

"Pseudo Masonry exists in this and many other Grand Lodge Jurisdictions, and the claims of the so-called colored Lodges are attracting attention not only on this, but also on the other side of the Atlantic. Neither the interests of Masonry nor of true humanity required the organization of those societies, for the American Grand Lodges wage no war of race or sect or condition, all are alike welcome, subject to the restrictions common to all men, hence affiliation in a colored Lodge may be con-

sidered merely a matter of choice on the part of him who of his own free will and accord enters its portals. No reference would be made at this time to this subject but for the fact that strenuous efforts are being made for their recognition as Masons, with a fair prospect of success in some of the European Grand Lodges ; nor would this fact give cause for alarm ; the danger lies in the subversion of the well settled and well recognized law existing without dissent among the American Grand Lodges of exclusive *territorial* jurisdiction. It is not necessary, however, to turn aside and weep rhetorical tears, for the Masonic society is not doomed, nor does it stand on the brink of dissolution ; there is a moral, numerical and intellectual strength in the Grand Lodges on the Western continent sufficient to conduct this controversy according to common Masonic intercourse, and without violence to truth and reason ; yet it is to be regretted that a subject so fruitful of discord could not have been permitted to remain forever in obscurity."

We also copy some of his decisions :—

" 19. By the law of the land one neglecting to provide for his family is guilty of a misdemeanor, and such neglect is an offence against Masonry, and may be punished.

20. A summons must be obeyed, unless a lawful excuse can be offered. A brother summoned cannot shield himself by the plea that the cause for summons was not sufficiently urgent.

21. It is unmasonic for a Mason to disclose his ballot on a petition for admission, advancement, or for the mysteries of Masonry ; therefore, it would be unmasonic for a Mason to black-ball one at the request of another.

22. No one can be deprived of his rights and privileges as a member until by due trial and conviction for some offence charged, and sentence has been recorded, and all regulations depriving any of their prerogatives are obnoxious, and ought not to be regarded.

33. Every Lodge is bound to work according to the rules prescribed by the Grand Lodge to which it owes allegiance, and when the work is so done, it is good and lawful, and must pass inspection. When one Lodge is employed by another to work on certain material furnished, and the work is done according to the skill and understanding of the workman, the employer, in good faith, is bound to accept it, and good faith to the candidate requires his acceptance.

34. If you employ another to do your work for you, and having given him no specific instructions, he fashions it according to the rule of the Craft in the country where he has wrought, you are bound to accept it, for it was his duty to do the work according to his understanding. Without specified instructions you could not expect him to have knowledge of rules and customs peculiar to a country in which he has neither traveled or worked. Remember the laborer is worthy of his hire."

He notices the death of our Grand Master Wilson and says :—

" A bright light has faded from the Masonic horizon, the history of his life is the story of a pure and unselfish man's career."

Among the Grand Representatives he appointed Bro. J. J. Mason, "to reside at Hamilton, near the Grand Lodge of Canada," and he hopes "that these Illustrious Diplomates will let their light so shine that it may be seen of all men."

Receipts, \$4,216.15. Balance on hand, \$27.85. Amount

contributed by lodges in Kansas for special relief of destitute brethren, \$998.35. Amount contributed by other Grand Lodges for the same purpose, \$9,194.80.

Obedience Lodge requested that its name be changed to "Americus" which was done. We presume that the merry customers of that Lodge may now be as disobedient as they like.

Kansas appears to be down on the liquor sellers. A member was charged with keeping a saloon and filed the following answer :—

"In answer to the charges preferred against me at a Regular Communication of said Lodge, held on the night of the 17th day of February, 1875, I have the honor to submit the following :

First—At the time of my being initiated as an Entered Apprentice, and that of my passing and finally raising to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason, I was engaged in the business of keeping a saloon, and which is made now the subject matter of the charges brought against me, and of which I claim due and timely notice, together with a copy of the same and citation to appear this day.

Second—At the time of my admission as a member of Seneca Lodge No. 39, A. F. & A. M., to wit : on or about the 21st day of April, A. D. 1871, I was at that date engaged in the same business which is made the subject matter of and contained in said charge.

Third—I plead *guilty* to the charge, or the subject matter thereof, so far as the same is included in "*keeping a saloon where intoxicating liquors are sold as a beverage,*" with the qualifications hereinbefore and hereafter enumerated. That it is not my intention to injure myself morally, nor to injure the Masonic Fraternity, nor bring discredit on myself as a man, or the Order to which I belong. I plead *not guilty* to that portion of the charges adduced against me.

I would further state, that not being of a robust and hearty temperament, it is impossible for me to gain a livelihood in any business that requires manual labor in connection therewith, and being accustomed to this present business in which I am at present engaged, chose that as a means of obtaining a means of support for myself and my wife and children, who, God knows, I would not knowingly engage myself in any business to injure the reputation of, nor that of our beloved Order, to which I have had the high honor to belong for the past nine years.

Brethren ! before the charges above enumerated were brought against myself, I had never done anything to the discredit of Masonry, knowingly.

I submit my case, promising to always demean myself in my daily walk honorably and uprightly as a man and a Mason, and ask all that leniency and charity from each brother of the Lodge which we are taught in our several lectures that one Master Mason should possess for another. Hoping you will decide the matter conscientiously for yourselves individually and as a Lodge, I subscribe myself,"

The Lodge acquitted him and the J. W. appealed. The Committee on Appeals in their report which was adopted say :—

Bro. William Cook in said answer pleads guilty to the charge, "That

on or about the 14th day of January, A. D. 1875, he kept a saloon where intoxicating liquors were sold as a beverage," and that he continued to keep such saloon, and was still engaged in the business at the time of the trial on said charge.

And it further appears to your Committee, that after said plea and answer, and after the decisions of this Grand Lodge and the Standing Rules and Regulations had been read by the Junior Warden to said Lodge, yet said Lodge by its vote acquitted said Bro. William Cook on said charges, the ballot resulting, sixteen voting "*Guilty*," and eleven voting "*Not Guilty*"; and thus, with a full knowledge of the Laws, Rules and Regulations of this Grand Lodge, deliberately violating the same—not even having the poor excuse of *ignorance* to justify them in so doing. The Lodge well knew the law in regard to the matter under consideration. The brother had plead guilty to the facts as charged, and only one thing remained for them to do, as Masons having the good of the Institution at heart and any regard for their obligations and duties as members of our grand and glorious Order, and that was, under the Standing Regulations of A. D., 1873, supporting and carrying into effect the decisions of Grand Master Brown (see Proceedings of A. D. 1870) and Grand Master Price (see Proceedings A. D. 1873), to promptly find the brother guilty as confessed by him, and either suspend or expel him from the Order. Such an utter, *entire* and deliberate disregard of the laws of a Grand Lodge, and direct violation of Masonic law and discipline, has seldom, if ever, been reported, and never before in this Jurisdiction. And your Committee, while loth to inflict any penalty upon those sixteen brothers who performed their duty in said matter and are entitled to all praise for so doing, cannot overlook the fact that all brethren are responsible as a Lodge for the action of a majority, while acting as a Lodge, and we therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to-wit :

Resolved, That for gross and wilful violation of the Regulations and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Kansas by Seneca Lodge, No. 39, in the matter of the trial of Bro. William Cook before said Lodge on March 9, 1875, that the Charter of said Seneca Lodge, No. 39, be, and the same is hereby, revoked."

A sequel to this action appears further on in the proceedings, when the following resolutions were adopted :—

"*Resolved*, That the M.:W.: Grand Master elect be requested to issue a Dispensation to such of the brethren of the late Seneca Lodge, No. 39, as he may see fit, and that said Dispensation be issued without expense to the said brethren.

Resolved, That the M.:W.: Grand Master be requested to turn over to the brethren of said Lodge under Dispensation the jewels and other property belonging to the late Seneca Lodge, No. 39."

The Grand Lodges of Wyoming and Dakota were recognized, but Indian Territory, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island were postponed.

A very good report appears from a committee on the question of "Masonic Mutual Protection Association." They believe that societies of this kind, if properly conducted, may do much good, but they deprecate the use of the word "Masonic" in connection with them. They also say :—

"As to the propriety of this Grand Lodge engaging in or adopting any of the schemes referred to we have the gravest doubts. We do not believe it in keeping with the teachings of Masonry to establish or maintain any system of fixed benefits ; neither do we believe it policy for the Grand Lodge to assume any responsibility in such schemes, much less to become an insurance company."

STATISTICS.—Lodges, 162 ; initiated, 453 ; members, 6,146. Dues collected for Grand Lodge, \$3,042.50.

The report on correspondence is by the Grand Secretary and is very well written. Canada for 1874 appears. He quotes the remarks of G. M. Wilson on suspension and says :

"Heretofore we held similar opinions in relation to indefinite suspension and the restoration of a suspended brother ; but as we grow older, read and think more, confess we have come to the conclusion that it is rank injustice to restore one to all the rights of a Mason save membership in the particular Lodge by which he was suspended. Surely, if he was wrongfully suspended, and the Grand Lodge so decides, he should be restored to Lodge membership, if restored at all, otherwise it must be conceded that Grand Lodges are incompetent to fully rectify the wrongs of their Subordinates, notwithstanding their alleged supremacy as an appellate tribunal."

We agree with Bro. Brown and think his position is correct. There is, however, a distinction made sometimes in cases where the Grand Lodge restores a member not because he was not guilty nor because of a wrong trial, but in the exercise of its prerogative of mercy and believing that the brother has been sufficiently punished. In these cases it is argued that the Grand Lodge should restore the brother only to good standing as a Mason and not to membership in his lodge. He would then be a non-affiliate and could join any lodge that was willing to receive him.

We also approve of the following from his notice of Mississippi :—

"It is a pleasure to note his flat refusal to grant a Dispensation for conferring the F. C. C. and M. M. Degrees on a candidate (some fop who valued show more than profound knowledge?) short of the time prescribed by the By-Laws. This favor was asked that the aforesaid candidate might get through the Chapter and Commandery in time to visit New Orleans in the following December and be present at the Grand Encampment. A progressive, modest candidate, truly ! Had the writer of this report been a member of that Lodge, he fears that aspirant would have remained on the first floor until he had learned the first rudiments at least, supposing one so shallow could ever have attained that much. Such persons do not come seeking light under the rule. They should not be advanced when their true motives become apparent, and never admitted if known in advance."

M. W. Bro. Isaac B. Sharp, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John H. Brown, G. Sec'y.

KENTUCKY—1873.

Annual Communication (74th) held in Louisville, Oct. 21st. The Grand Master, Edward W. Turner, delivered a good Address, in which he says :—

“It is with a breast kindled with exultation that I offer to the Grand Lodge congratulations that another year of abundant success has waited upon the career of our Institution in our loved Commonwealth of Kentucky. No note of discord disturbs our harmony ; no blight of jealousy or mistake curses the increasing prosperity of Masonry within our jurisdiction. The olive branch waves with no meaningless symbolry throughout our bounds, while words of cheer float to us from distant parts of the civilized world ; and thus, animated by such pleasing assurances of a healthy growth, may we not anticipate that our legislation will be characterized in its immediate as well as remote results, by a hearty conviction of the great responsibility that rests upon us ?”

We quote three of his decisions and his remarks on dispensations :—

“The Grand Master has no power to grant a dispensation to hold an election for officers of a Lodge when it failed to hold it at the time prescribed by the Constitution ; the same rule prevails if an election is held informally or should be illegal ; in such cases the old officers hold over.

A demitted worthy Master Mason, at his request, is entitled to be buried with Masonic honors.

A Subordinate Lodge can not grant a demit to any elective officer during the term of said officer.

The above are a few, very few, of the questions we have answered during the past year. Why is it that brothers will persist in asking the Grand Master for a dispensation to confer degrees out of time—to initiate cripples “who are good fellows and in every way qualified, and whose fathers have been Masons for fifty years, and whose mothers are the best Christians in the whole neighborhood !” Now, this is too much, for it is impossible to pick up a Grand Lodge report where these questionings are not decided.”

He ruled that no money penalty can be imposed upon a member, otherwise eligible, to prevent the Lodge electing him to office. This occurred in a case where the by-laws of a Lodge provided that members in arrear for dues were not eligible to be elected officers. He decided that that by-law was clearly unmasonic, and says :—

“Entertaining these views I ordered the officers elect to be installed and sent my proxy to the Deputy Grand Master to act for me in the premises. He attempted to do so and the Master of Clarke Lodge, No. 51, took what he sees fit to call an “appeal” from the decision of the Grand Master. This so far as I know, is an unusual procedure. The Grand Master in vacation is the Grand Lodge, and his will is the supreme law and must be obeyed until the sitting of the Grand Lodge, to whom alone he is amenable, and his decisions can not be rendered null and void, and of no effect by an appeal. Whether the views entertained by us in this matter are correct or not we feel that, by the non-installation of the officers elect, the prerogatives of the Grand Master have been invaded, and if so, after

inquiry, we expect the Grand Lodge to present the guilty parties."

He congratulates the Grand Lodge that they have the distinguished honor of having successfully inaugurated and established the first Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home and Infirmary, on the American continent. He strongly presses the claim of this Institution on the brethren for liberal support.

He reports the finances in good condition and commends the *Kentucky Freemason*. He calls attention to the great distress at Memphis and Shreveport through yellow fever.

Twenty-four appeals and grievances were presented, and 12 petitions for new lodges.

Quite a feature in these Proceedings is the Reception of the Children from the Home. One part of it is as follows, and the whole exercises must have been very pleasing:—

"The next item upon the programme was the orphans' greeting song to the Masonic fraternity, entitled "Feed my Lambs." Eleven little girls arranged themselves in line on the stage at the call of their names. Around the neck of each was a ribbon, from which hung a card in size about 5 by 7, upon one side of which was printed, in very large and distinct type, a letter, the blank side of the card being exposed to the audience when the children took their places. The little Miss at the East side of the hall sang clearly and sweetly a verse of the greeting song. At the conclusion of which she reversed the card which was lying upon her breast, and exposed to the full view of the audience the large letter F upon the other side. When the first verse had been completed, the second one was commenced by the next little girl, who in turn reversed her card and showed the large letter E, and so this order was continued until all the participants had sung a verse and reversed a card. The climax being reached by revealing in living characters the sentence, "Feed my Lambs." The little girls performed their parts well in the piece. It was received with shouts of applause, which is the best proof of its success."

A collection was taken up which realized \$274.35.

The Committee on Appeals say that a Masonic Lodge is not the proper place to settle partnerships, even between Masons, unless a crime against Masonry has been committed.

Grand Lodge voted \$750 to the Relief Funds of Memphis and Shreveport.

On mixed funerals, the following resolutions were adopted, which we think are very correct and proper:

"Resolved, That when other Orders, not Masonic, have exclusive charge of the body, and are to perform the funeral ceremonies in the burial of a Master Mason, who was also a member of such other orders, Master Masons should not attend the burial, except as citizens and friends. But, when such other order, or orders, have not the exclusive charge, the Masons, as an order, may also officiate, provided they shall have precedence, and occupy the post of honor in the rear.

Resolved, That in all interments with the formalities of Masonry, the whole ceremonies should be under the general direction of the Master of

the Lodge, and not under that of an officer of any higher degree in Masonry.

Resolved, That an unaffiliated Master Mason, in good standing, is entitled to Masonic sepulture whenever a Lodge, within whose jurisdiction he dies, or may be buried, is willing to perform the solemn rites over his remains."

About 500 lodges return 1,652 initiations and 20,964 members, and \$21,261.50 dues.

Canada for 1872 appears in the report on correspondence by the Grand Secretary.

M. W. Bro. Thomas J. Pickett, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. J. M. S. McCorkle, G. Sec'y.

KENTUCKY--1874.

Annual Communication (75th) held in Louisville, October 20th. The Grand Master, Thomas J. Pickett, opens his able address as follows:—

"Brethren of the Grand Lodge: Fifty-four years ago Henry Clay was Grand Master of Masons of Kentucky, and this Grand Body, with those of Ohio and Tennessee, were the only Grand Lodges of any note in the Mississippi Valley, and I am quite sure they were the only ones. If the Grand Lodge of Kentucky was then a stalwart body, among similar ones upon this continent, what may be said of her now with her five hundred and fifty Lodges, and benevolent provision, her material strength, and the numerous and mighty Grand Lodges which skirt the shore and lie along the tributaries of the great river?

Grasp the fact that the Grand Lodge of Kentucky since that time sent one of her Grand Masters to be the first Grand Master of the present Grand Lodge of Illinois ; that seventeen Grand Orients besides our own, strong and imposing, grace the valley of the Mississippi, with more than 4,500 Lodges, and considerably more than 225,000 members. Contrasting the present with the past, the future is to us a sealed book. It seems like assuming the attributes of Deity to even foreshadow our coming destiny."

He reports having granted thirteen Dispensations for new Lodges and refused several others. He refers to the "Home," gives a number of useful suggestions and closes as follows:—

"Brethren, I have hastily, briefly, and imperfectly given account of my stewardship. Now, a word of admonition. Guard well this Institution—look well to all who enter your doors, that no breach of faith dim the lustre of the pride of your Lodges ; for no other Institution is left standing which carries us back more clearly through the smoke of Jewish sacrifice, or the mist of past ages. It was great and respected when the Roman invaded Britain ; it was the type of universal benevolence when John sorrowed in Patmos ; it was the conservator of morality when idolators worshiped at Mecca ; and the pilgrim's weary foot never trod a surer road to devotion than the paths through which Masonry leads candidates for her mysteries ; and she shall flourish in undiminished vigor when empires pass away and thrones and dynasties shall crumble into ruin."

The Grand Lodge has been sued at law by one of its Sub

ordinate Lodges in regard to the Masonic Hall property in Lexington, and P. G. M Eginton was authorized to defend the suit. This seems to us rather a curious proceeding, and one to be severely deprecated. Surely the dispute could have been settled amicably, or by the arbitration of Brothers from some other State, without resorting to the law courts. We should practice what we preach, and we are taught by the Ancient Charges to avoid law suits. Suppose Grand Lodge should suspend that subordinate Lodge, what becomes of the suit? The plaintiffs having become defunct, or *functus officio*, will not the suit be abated?

At the Reception of the Children from the Home, the Grand Lodge received 129 Orphans and 10 Widows. We copy a part of the programme:—

“A song and chorus—“Little Gleaners”—followed. This was sung by a company of little girls so arranged as to height as to make a perfect bow, and each holding in her hand a bunch of unthreshed oats. It was a scene to delight the Grangers. A piano duet ensued—“Air from Norma”—by Amanda Ragsdale, from Cromwell Lodge, No. 420, and Belle Atterbury, from Nolin Lodge, No. 234. Then came a dialogue—“Civil Rights”—by Alvin Highfield, Hart Lodge, No. 61, and Preston Brickey, Fleming Lodge, No. 112. The two little boys came on the stage with black masks, representing two negroes engaged in a discussion of the advantages to be enjoyed when this bill should become a law—all rendered in good African dialect, and creating great amusement. Josiah, a young darkey, tells Uncle Billy of that millennium some of the benefits of which are riding in the cars and putting feet on the cushions, stopping at the first-class hotels and being buried in *italic* coffins. Uncle Billy inquired if dar is any *provisions* in dat bill. He wants *provisions* and if he don't git hog and hominy being buried in an *italic* coffin ain't worth a dog gone cent.”

The Masonic Temple Company presented their annual report. The receipts were \$17,123.52, and the expenditure \$18,928.22, the deficiency for the year being \$1,804.70. The reduced revenue is attributed to the stringency of the money market and deductions made to tenants. This Company owns the Temple and grounds, &c., valued at \$200,000. The stock and mortgage bonds amount to \$131,650, on which they pay 8 per cent. interest. Grand Lodge owns in Stock and Bonds \$98,450.

We copy the first part of the Report of the Committee on finances:—

“For twenty-nine years Bro. A. G. Hodges has been the Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge. He entered into office and found the treasury empty, the Grand Lodge without credit, and Subordinate Lodges paying the expenses of their respective delegates. He carried into the office distinguished ability, inflexible integrity, and untiring energy. His twenty-nine years administration of our Treasury Department has worked a wondrous change. Now the Grand Lodge pays mileage and per diem

to the representatives of four hundred and sixty-nine Lodges, thirteen Grand Officers, ten Past Grand Officers, twelve Committeemen—more than five hundred in all—and has an invested fund of \$108,777.50. The judicious management of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and speedy and safe investment of all surplus funds, have won for the Grand Treasurer the confidence of the members of the Craft throughout the State, and deserves the highest commendation that we can give.

But why this vast accumulation of money, and what shall we do with it? A ready, prompt and proper response is easily given. Just within the city limits stands *our* Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home and Infirmary, the north wing of the building completed, furnished, and filled by one hundred and fifty beneficiaries, left by our departed brothers to our fostering care, and demanding from us the sustenance to which they are entitled at our hands. This building is unfinished and unendowed. The Craft throughout the United States, and in fact the entire world, are watching our progress in this noble work, ready to follow in our footsteps if we succeed, while the enemies of our grand old Order are also watching us with jealous eyes, ready to laugh us to scorn if we fail. In order to prevent failure and make this noble charity a perfect success, there must be heavy contributions from the Craft. What better mode for the Craft to make contribution than to donate to the Home the vast accumulations of the Grand Lodge? None better occurs to your Committee, and no better use can be found for this money than to relieve the wants of the widows and orphans of our dead. To the Home this money, or rather the bulk of it, should go. The Grand Treasurer, whose careful management has accumulated this fund recommends this, and we endorse his recommendations, and ask the members of the Grand Lodge to read his annual report."

They presented a resolution which was adopted, donating the magnificent sum of \$78,500 in mortgage bonds of the Temple Company to the Orphans' Home. This generous donation will increase the annual income of the Home to about \$13,000, and will keep it in successful operation.

Initiations, 1,659. Members, 21,549. Dues paid, \$22,108.60.

The Report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary, and he notices our Proceedings for 1873.

M. W. Bro. Henry Bostwick, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. J. M. S. McCorkle, Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY—1875.

Annual Communication (76th) held in Louisville, October 19th. In the Address of the Grand Master, Henry Bostwick, we find the following reference to the death of their Grand Secretary. The venerable and esteemed Brother McCorkle was widely known and respected. We deeply regret his loss, and assure the brethren in Kentucky of our heart-felt sympathy.

"But in the midst of our mutual congratulations, come thoughts of sadness ; we look in vain for the well known form and familiar face of our

late Grand Secretary, Bro. J. M. S. McCorkle, who departed this life on the 5th day of March, A. D., 1875.

Bro. McCorkle was born in Chambersburg, Pa., March 24, 1799. He was initiated in Greensburg (Ky) Lodge, No. 54, April 18th, 1825; passed May 10th, 1825, and raised June 23rd, 1825. He was elected Master of his Lodge December 27th, 1826. He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1847; Senior Grand Warden in 1848; Deputy Grand Master in 1849 and Grand Master of this Grand Lodge in 1850.

He was elected Grand Secretary in 1854, and how well and faithfully he discharged the duties of the office, and with what satisfaction to the Grand Lodge, is best attested in the fact that he has been re-elected every year, except one, at which time he was prevented from attending the Grand Lodge on account of sickness.

In the discharge of his official duties he brought a ripe scholarship, and a mind stored with Masonic knowledge; and for every virtue that becomes an honest man, a devoted, enlightened and zealous craftsman, his name is the synonym, and many of us who have profited by his experience and service must ever remember him with filial reverence, as indeed a Father in our Israel.

Having faithfully and most acceptably wrought his day, he yielded obedience to the mandate of the destroyer, and released from the trials and vicissitudes of this earthly pilgrimage, his spirit wended its flight to the Author of all good."

The G. M. appointed Bro. John M. Todd as his successor. Bro. Todd has been Assistant Grand Secretary for the past 17 years.

The G. M. issued nine Dispensations for new Lodges and refused several others. He pertinently observes:—

"The disposition to form new Lodges simply to gratify a few brethren, or to be able to say that there is a Masonic Lodge in our town, seems to permeate the minds of a large number of the brethren, they seeming to forget that the theory of our purpose should be to make all subordinate Lodges self-sustaining. In fact, from some of the applications which I have received, it would appear that the idea of forming a new Lodge was simply to provide "ways and means" for some brother to visit Louisville once a year at the expense of the Grand Lodge."

He decided that the election of an honorary member as W. M. was illegal. He declined many applications for Dispensations to confer degrees out of time. He mentions the death of Bro. J. C. Breckinridge and refers to the Orphans' Home as follows:—

"On the 2d day of June, 1875, a severe storm passed over the southern portion of the city of Louisville, strewing destruction in its pathway. The main portion of the building, which was unfinished, was almost entirely destroyed, and it was afterwards found necessary to take down the towers. This calamity involved a loss of some \$25,000 upon the Board of Directors; but thanks to the noble-hearted brethren of Louisville, who had already done so much for this beneficent charity, they were equal to the emergency. They at once called a public meeting and resolved to raise an amount sufficient to make good all damage done by the storm, and before the meeting adjourned the entire sum was provided for."

We thought "Old Grimes was dead," but it appears from the following that he is still alive and is vexing the Kentucky Grand Lodge with writs and summonses and other naughty (or perhaps knotty) legal devices. They have now two law suits on hand, although one is generally quite sufficient for all practical purposes :—

"The undersigned respectfully reports upon the matters committed to his charge as attorney as follows, to wit :

1. At the term of the Fayette Circuit Court succeeding the last session of this Grand Body, I filed a full answer on behalf of the defendant in the action therein pending in regard to what is generally known as the Grand Hall property at Lexington ; but at the last term the plaintiff desired to amend the pleadings and the case was continued, and there is no reasonable probability that a final trial will be had until the next May term.

2. In regard to the action of Samuel Grimes against this Grand Lodge, I have been several times at LaGrange and have the requisite defence filed ; and went there during this session hoping for a trial, but found the plaintiff not ready, and desiring to file an amended petition, of which I have a copy and will have it answered this evening or to-morrow.

I hope for a final disposition of both of these cases before the next session of this Grand Lodge."

A resolution was adopted that

No Subordinate Lodge shall hereafter be required to pay dues to the Grand Lodge on such of its members, if any, who for a period of fifty years, has been an affiliated Master Mason of some Subordinate Lodge, regularly during all this time paying dues as such."

The original motion said 25 years, but it was amended by altering 25 to 50, thus practically defeating the object of the motion. We would have voted for the original.

We copy the following eloquent tribute to the memory of the celebrated Bro. John C. Breckinridge :—

"Bro. John C. Breckinridge died at Lexington, May 17th, 1875. Of his long public life as a statesman and a soldier it is not our province to speak ; suffice it to say, that in the varied official relations he sustained, he was spotless in character, and faithful in duty, expending all the magnificent resources of his talents in making himself useful, and always succeeded in winning the love of his friends and the admiration of those who differed with him in opinion and convictions of duty. He early connected himself with Masonry, and advanced through its various degrees until he became one of the most distinguished members of the 33°. At one time the Grand Lodge had the office of Grand Orator, which our distinguished Brother filled. Since the close of the war Bro. Breckinridge took no part in politics or Masonry, refusing any attention that would give him publicity or invite remark. He kept himself apart from all branches of Masonry on account of his anxiety that a censorious public should impute nothing to Masonry by his act that looked like favoritism, or any attempt to use the influence of the Masonic Brotherhood to remove him from any disabilities he might have incurred as a citizen. It is difficult for those who did not know him to appreciate the pure, earnest, heroic and unselfish nature of our great Brother. Goethe said, "He is not half himself who has not seen the Juno in the Rondanini

palace at Rome." In like manner we say, that man knows not to what race he belongs who has not looked upon such a man as John Cabell Breckinridge.

In form he was as exquisitely moulded as Apollo Belvidere. His eyes concentrated the rays of an intelligence which lighted those magnificent orbs until they shone with the splendor of twin suns. His heart was an ocean of generosity. His lips were as musical with eloquence as was Anacreon's lyre of love. His voice was as the thrilling echo of the sound of many waters, and as sweet in accent as the silver trumpet of the Levites. Those who saw and knew him felt that the grandest manhood lay in him, softly and fully as the image of the sun lies in a drop of dew. There was a majesty in the public silence, which, since the war, waited upon his career. It was not forced and reluctant, but wise and willing.

Wherever and in whatever circumstances Breckinridge appeared, his nature, like a sun, displayed itself entire in its intensity, its earnestness, its intelligence, its clear courage, its spotless honesty, but was shaded as the evening drew on, into milder hues, tenderer traits, and mellowed effulgence. And though the light went down under the shadow of a civil disability, its relict radiance still shines upon us like the polished Parthenon, which seemed "carved out of Athenian sunset."

"What founts Kentucky sheds for one
Of all her dead the newest,
For Breckinridge—her peerless son,
Her proudest and her truest.
You shrouded lies her latest gift
To God, and fame, and history,
Whose going left a golden rift
Upon the skies of glory."

We cannot better close this feeble tribute to the worth of Breckinridge than in the eloquent language of Bro. Albert Pike, at the Lodge of Sorrow, held in Louisville :

"It was the faith of our ancient Aryan ancestors, that the spirits of their great, wise bards and teachers ascended to the sky at their death, and became stars, immortal revealings of that universal light, the life of the universe, which they called the great good Indra. If that were still our creed, and if we, like our ancestors, kindled our sacrificial fires at early dawn upon the summits of the mountains, and worshipped Mitra, the glorious morning star, and the stars that had been great and good men, none of those that looked benignly down upon the fields and woods of Kentucky would shine with a brighter and purer radiance than the star-spirit of our illustrious Brother Breckinridge. Then monuments and statues were not needed to perpetuate the names and memories of Aryan sages and heroes; for as often as the stars ascended into the sky, the herdsman upon the steppes and the husbandman upon the alluvial plains of Samrkand or the Oxus, saw the benefactors of his race shining in the heavens, and revered them as guides, protectors and defenders.

"The splendors of the sun linger in the west after his setting until the stars shine, and the light that he poured upon the earth during his life of a day is not lost or dead, when the night, a veiled queen, reigns in her turn; but it has then become a part of the life and being of all the things upon which he shone. Even so, the fruitful influence of the dead inspire, invigorate and purify the living. May God give us wisdom to profit by these influences, and unto these our dead brethren, greatly beloved, eternal rest!"

The following resolutions were adopted, all of which we approve :—

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Master be requested to publish all current decisions, proper for publication, in the *Kentucky Freemason*; and, also, all other officers of the Grand Lodge whatever information they may wish to convey to the craft.

Resolved, That the Master of each Lodge shall be requested to present the *Kentucky Freemason* to the consideration of the Lodge, and appoint some active brother to canvass for subscriptions.

Resolved, That the publishers of the *Kentucky Freemason* be allowed to print the prospectus of that paper upon a fly-leaf or one of the pages of the cover of the Proceedings.”

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to forward to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge three copies of the annual proceedings instead of one, as is now required to be sent.”

The sum of \$800 was voted to the three unmarried daughters of the late Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Jurisprudence decided that the W. M. and two Master Masons may open a Lodge of Master Masons. This was the old rule, but we thought it was entirely done away with in the United States, more especially as they transact all their business in the third degree. The number seven makes a Lodge perfect, and to be consistent when they transferred the routine business from the first degree to the third, they should also have taken the perfect number seven. Fancy three members balloting for a candidate and electing all the officers !

The same Committee decline to say “how a F. C. should wear his apron,” as it is a disputed point in the ritual and not a question of jurisprudence.

They also decide that the W. M. of a Lodge U. D. is entitled to the honorary degree of Past Master.

A fine portrait, painted by Bro. Nicolai Marschal, was presented to Bro. A. G. Hodges, who has been Grand Treasurer for 30 years.

Initiations, 1,503 ; members, 21,594 ; dues, \$20,880.00.

The report on correspondence is by Bro. Thomas Todd, who proves himself a worthy successor to Bro. McCorkle. He reviews Canada for 1874, and gives several extracts.

The returns of subordinate Lodges occupy 340 pages. The names of all the Members are given in full, together with the admissions, restorations, deaths, suspensions, and dismissions.

M. W. Bro. John H. Lewthers, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. John M. Todd, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA—1876.

Annual Communication (64th) held in New Orleans, February 14th.

The Grand Master, Bro. John G. Fleming, delivered a long Address (covering 45 pages), which is very interesting, and shows that Bro. Fleming has attended to his various duties in no perfunctory manner. We regret very much to notice the death of Bro. James B. Scot, a well-known Masonic writer of great ability. Bro. Fleming also has sympathetic remarks on the deaths of our late Grand Master and Grand Secretary. We copy two of his decisions :

"8. On a question of Lake Village Lodge, that a brother Mason is just as much bound to obey a summons from another lodge as he is one from his own ; and that if he cannot obey it, he must give a satisfactory excuse to the W. Master of the lodge from which the summons emanates.

9. In the case of W. Brother Horn, of Alpha Home Lodge, No. 72, That no brother Mason has a right to protest against the ruling of the Grand Master, or the enactments of the Grand Lodge. His only right is that of appeal, and his duty, in the meantime, is to submit and obey."

The Lodges are in general in good condition, and fairly prosperous. He does not believe in a secret ballot at Masonic trials, and he issued a circular giving his arguments *in extenso* in support of his views. We copy part of his remarks on the "colored" question :—

"One of the most astounding Masonic measures to which my attention has been called during the past year, is the enactment proposed in the Grand Lodge of Ohio, in regard to the so-called colored Masons in that State. The recognition of these clandestine Masons was recommended by the Grand Master, reported upon favorably by the Committee to whom the matter was referred, and taken under advisement by the Grand Lodge until its next annual communication." * * * *

"The colored lodges of Ohio are clandestine, and enough has been written upon that subject, and sufficient facts elicited from the records of the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and England, to place that question beyond the possibility of a doubt in the mind of any intelligent and impartial man ; and since they are clandestine, I cannot see why they should be admitted, because they are colored, or because they are numerous and have assumed the title of Grand. We do not, as Masons, interfere with the lives, or liberties, or happiness of any one, nor is it either our duty, or our privilege to legislate for any special class—sectarian, national, political or shade of color ; and as there is nothing in the Masonic code of any Grand Lodge that debars a colored man from admission to our mysteries, I cannot but look upon it as being wrong for any Grand Lodge to legislate whole bodies into our Fraternity, or even an individual, until he has first been admitted at the working door of a regularly constituted lodge.

The committee that reported favorably in the Grand Lodge of Ohio, state that "they have the most satisfactory and conclusive evidence that these colored Freemasons practice the very same rights and ceremonies,

and have substantially the same esoteric, or secret modes of recognition, as are practiced by ourselves and by the universal family of Freemasons throughout the world." This is, at the same time, a strange and bold assertion, and without entering into any inquiry as to how that satisfactory and conclusive evidence was obtained, whether by actual observation or correspondence, I am at a loss to conceive by what means, or in what manner they determine to demonstrate its truth to any *correct thinking or acting* Mason, beyond "*their own assertion.*" I know not what influences may be at work in Ohio, but I have very credible information that high State office, even the highest, has been proposed to prominent Masons in this jurisdiction by influential colored men, claiming to be Masons, as a reward for a similar recognition here; but, as yet, there has not been found any one reckless enough to hazard his own Masonic reputation, or imperil the welfare of the Fraternity, by making such a proposition before this Grand Lodge." * * * *

"This will be the first time that ever the subject of color or negro has been discussed, either by any Grand Master in his address or by the Grand Lodge, and I most sincerely regret the circumstances that render such a step necessary; but if the supposed prejudice against our colored citizens is to be made the ground work or excuse for trampling upon the fundamental laws, usages and customs of our Fraternity, I think it is time the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which is most deeply interested in the issue, should proclaim her verdict and try the virtue of remonstrance, even though it tries it in vain." * * * *

"If philanthropy is the spirit, and the only spirit at the bottom of this movement, then the leaders of it, both in France and Ohio, are pursuing a very unwise course. If there is any prejudice against the colored man, it can be abolished sooner and more effectually by legal and conciliatory than by illegal and coercive measures. Let the colored man alone, so far as Masonry is concerned, to work out his own destiny and standing in society, and the day will no doubt come that in this country he can, as he does now in England and France, enter our Fraternity by virtue of his merit and intelligence, and by being made a Mason in a *legally constituted constituent lodge*, which, in my opinion, is the only body that can legally make him one. It is to be hoped that the constituent lodges of Ohio will grapple and render powerless the arm that is raised to strike this suicidal blow."

He is justly severe on Lodges which on a trial find the accused guilty of a gross crime and then vote him no punishment, and he thinks that of all the irregularities in Masonic trials within the scope of possibility, this is about the greatest one. We think so too. He visited all the 32 city Lodges, and reports nearly all working as they should. The craft in general throughout the State is in a better condition than heretofore. More Lodges have made returns and paid dues within the proper time than have before for eight years.

Bro. Fleming, in speaking about non-payment of dues, advocates a reformation in the selection and admission of candidates as a cure for this evil, and his remarks on this subject are well worthy of preservation and extensive circu-

lation, and we commend them to the careful perusal and consideration of our brethren in Canada.

"There has been of late years, a too great ambition on the part of the officers and members of the lodges, to make proselytes, and to depend upon the money received as fees to pay the expenses of the lodge; and so great has been the desire to do, what is termed work, that in most cases but little, and in hardly any, is there sufficient attention paid to the character and qualifications of the candidate. Our investigating committees are generally satisfied, to report favorably, if they cannot find anything actually bad, or criminal, against the applicant. The recommenders of the petitioner, and his personal friends in the Order, find it necessary to get angry if any thing is alleged against him. If a committee were to report to a lodge, that they found the candidate too poor a man to maintain himself and his family (if he had one,) in comfort and respectability; and that they did not think that he would be able to maintain his membership, in the Fraternity under the ordinary vicissitudes of life, and report unfavorably *on that ground alone*, they would doubtless raise a great storm of indignation; and yet, the very same brethren that would get angry about *that*, would unhesitatingly do a far greater act of injustice, even admitting such a report to be unjust: they would receive the fees of such a man one year, and the next, vote to drop him from the roll, or suspend him for the non-payment of dues. Whilst ours is certainly not an exclusively rich man's Fraternity, it cannot be denied that we have suffered, and are still suffering severely from the introduction of too many poor and ignorant men, who are neither intelligent enough to understand their duties to it, nor gifted with skill and capacity enough in their vocations of life, to ensure success, even under favorable circumstances.

The votaries of Freemasonry should be drawn from the dominions of virtue and intellect—men virtuous enough to practice its teachings, and intelligent enough to comprehend its mission, and understand its laws. The benefits it has conferred on the human family, and will continue to confer, are too important to permit of its dissolution; and the advantages it gives to those who belong to it are too great to be thoughtlessly and carelessly bestowed. Freemasonry has done more than any other institution—even more than the Church itself—to break down those national and sectional hatreds that sometimes disturb the harmony and retard the prosperity of nations and communities even in times of peace. It has done more than any other society to crush religious and political intolerance, and to mitigate the cruelties and severities of war. It enables those to whom its mysteries are unveiled, to find friends in every civilized country; to find protection in the hour of danger—care and attention in sickness, and relief in distress; and more, it should be a sure guarantee of admission to the society of the virtuous in every land where it is known.

Let the Masters of Lodges cease to depend upon initiatory fees for the support of their lodges, and let the members be more careful who they recommend; and let investigating committees satisfy themselves, no matter whether the candidate is rich or poor, that he is a man that is disposed to do his duty towards his fellow-men; that he is master of some profession, trade or calling of a respectable character, by which he can maintain himself, with fair opportunities to do so, and that he is one upon whose word all men can rely when it is once given; in fact, that he is really possessed of and practices those virtues that are incul-

cated in Masonic teachings; and we will soon, by selecting our novitiates from that class of men, have fewer non-paying members, and a greater interest manifested in the Institution. I do not wish to be understood as arguing against a poor man's admission if he has the energy and capacity to rise from that condition by his own exertions and force of character; but I know that the good nature and sympathy of the brethren often lead them to admit those to whom the Order can be of little benefit, and who can never be any benefit to it. We will have enough to do to take care of those of our Fraternity who are rendered poor by misfortune, without admitting those that are poor by want of intelligence or their own misconduct. The man who forsakes the society of good men to associate with bad, will soon find himself abandoned by the former, and the same rule will surely work with us."

The Finance Committee report the assets of the Grand Lodge to be the large amount of \$165,794.83, of this sum there is invested in the Masonic Temple property the amount of \$82,330.07, and in the Grand Lodge Hall \$75,000.00.

The Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, and Wyoming were recognized.

The rest of the business, of which a large amount was transacted, was chiefly local. In the report of the Committee on obituaries, we find good notices of Bros. Wilson and Harris, and memorial pages are set apart in their honor.

There are 156 Lodges returning 286 initiations, and 6,991 members.

Our proceedings of 1875 receive a good notice in the report on correspondence by Bro. Whitaker.

M. W. Bro. John G. Fleming, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. J. C. Batchelor, M.D., Grand Secretary.

MAINE—1875.

Annual Communication (56th) held in Portland, May 4th. The Grand Master Bro. David Cargill, delivered a very practical address, recounting his official acts and decisions given, and paying merited tribute to the memory of deceased members. Among whom we regret to notice P. G. M. Timothy Chase. Bro. Chase had been a consistent and devoted Mason for nearly 60 years. The G. M. has the following on dimitts and we are of his opinion also :—

"A great many questions in regard to dimitts have been presented to me for decision. Some of our lodges hold to the idea that no member is entitled to a dimit, unless he is to leave the place and connect himself with some other lodge. Others contend that no brother should have a dimit unless he give his reasons why he wishes it in open lodge, and then submit the same to vote of the lodge, for those present to determine whether they are sufficient to allow him to leave the lodge.

I know of no authority any lodge has for withholding a dimit from any brother in good standing, and clear of the books. I am aware that in some instances a withdrawal of certain brethren from a lodge might be a great disadvantage; yet I hold that any brother wishing to leave, and having fulfilled all his obligations to the lodge, should not be hindered in so doing. Non-affiliation I dislike very much, yet if brethren wish so to do, I think they must be left free."

Of the decisions rendered we quote six, all of which are correct:—

"4. A lodge, by misapprehension as to the time, held a meeting, as a stated meeting, on the wrong day. A minute should be made on the record of such meeting "Held by mistake;" and the business should come before the lodge, at the next stated meeting, as if it had never been acted upon.

6. A Secretary of a lodge absolutely refuses to obey the instructions of the lodge and orders of the W. Master. What shall be done?

Cause charges to be filed against him for wilful disobedience, and try him for the same; and if found guilty punish him.

10. A brother applies for a certificate of membership. The Secretary refuses to give it. What is to be done?

If the brother is in good standing in the lodge, his request should be granted. If not in good standing, charges should be filed against him and he be summoned for trial,

11. No member of any other lodge has the right to visit, if any member objects to such brother's sitting in the lodge.

13. Any brother on trial for masonic offences, must be allowed the privilege of being present when evidence is being presented against him, and may cross-examine the witnesses, if he so choose, or have counsel do it for him.

14. A man sent a petition into a lodge for the degrees of masonry, signed by a friend, who was a member of the lodge, and the lodge received the petition, although no money for the same was with it, and referred it to a Committee of Inquiry. In due time the committee reported, a ballot was taken, and the man declared rejected. Was the rejection legal, and should it be so recorded?

The lodge erred in not having the petition signed by the applicant before receiving it, and a fee with it, both being contrary to requirements of the Grand Lodge; but these errors do not annul the ballot. The man put (or suffered to be put for him) his petition into the lodge for the degrees of masonry, and he must abide the result. I therefore decide that he was legally rejected."

He very properly suspended the offending members of a Lodge, and its W. M. for initiating a candidate who had been rejected by ballot, and in defiance of written and verbal objections made by several members. Subsequently the W. M. and a P. M. were expelled, and seven members indefinitely excluded for participating in this offence.

There are 172 lodges all making returns except one. Initiations, 964; members, 18,673. A revised Constitution was adopted. Among the Grievances and Appeals, we find that

a sentence of indefinite suspension passed by a lodge and not appealed from, was set aside as inadequate, and expulsion substituted. This proceeding seemed to us somewhat singular, and on reference to their Constitution, it appears that the Grand Lodge has the power to review the proceedings of lodges in all cases of suspension or expulsion not appealed from, and to confirm, modify, or reverse such proceedings. This, in our opinion does not authorize the substitution of a greater penalty for a lesser one. A modification would seem to mean that the penalty could be lessened, but not increased. The sum of \$958.00 was applied to the relief of 71 cases of need.

Bro. J. H. Drummond presented, as usual, the report on correspondence. It shows a thorough intimacy with the subjects treated upon, and a masterly manner of presenting his views in the strongest light possible. Canada, for 1874, is noticed, and sympathy is tendered for our recent losses.

MAINE—1876.

Annual Communication (57th) held in Portland, May 2nd ; 156 lodges represented out of 174.

Bro. Albert Moore, G. M., gave a capital address. Owing to the depression, the total membership had not increased, but he believes that higher moral attainments are being aimed at by the Fraternity. He had very few cases for discipline, and peace and harmony generally prevail. On the abuse of the secret ballot, he has some excellent remarks :—

“ Another prolific source of evil is the abuse of the secret ballot. A conscientious exercise of the right of the secret ballot is the unquestionable right of every member. For the exercise of this privilege the member is amenable to his own conscience alone, and can be called in question by no other authority. Proportioned to the effect of a conscientious or a malicious use of the ballot on the reputation of the applicant, is the responsibility of every Mason for its rightful exercise. We can have no theoretic knowledge of the misuse of the secret ballot, and yet we all know that in some lodges a clear ballot is unknown for months, and even years. The work of the lodge is seriously obstructed by the vengeful black-ball cast by some disaffected member who is not endowed with the gift to see himself as others see him, and hence, imagines that he is not properly appreciated and duly promoted. No Mason is worthy of the name, who, animated by such a spirit, seizes upon the ballot-box to avenge himself of some fancied neglect by the lodge, or of some private pique against the candidate or those presenting him. He violates his Masonic and moral obligations, and deserves the severest censure.

True, these are insulated cases, but they are exceedingly vexatious and troublesome, for the reason that there is virtually no remedy or redress. Shielded by the very bulwark whose sanctity they violate, they are beyond the reach of law or discipline ; and, as if to aggravate the evil, it

often happens that the mistaken zeal of the lodge leads to a premature and improper discussion (any discussion is improper) of the offence, and to the concoction of various schemes and questionable devices, to discover and identify the offender. A moment's reflection should convince us that such conduct strikes at the fundamental principles of the order, is fraught with danger to the efficacy and protection of the secret ballot, and will ultimately destroy it. When the ballot has been declared it should cease to be a subject of thought or discussion. There is no safety in any other course, and both lodge and members ought to strictly adhere to this practice."

Of his decisions, we quote :—

"Suspension for non-payment of dues involves the loss of membership only, but leaves the brother in the enjoyment of the rights and benefits of Masonry. On being re-instated, he should pay his dues assessed during suspension. Suspension for unmasonic conduct involves the loss of all the rights and benefits of Masonry—so that, on being restored, he should not be subjected to dues during suspension.

Ques. Our lodge wish to have a public holiday—will you grant the privilege? Also, can we appropriate the funds of the lodge for the same?

Ans. Can conceive of no case in which a dispensation would be granted except for purely Masonic purposes; and in no case can the lodge fund be devoted to such use.

Ques. A gentleman wants to make application to our lodge for the degrees. He is not a resident here, nor is he anywhere. He is a Captain of a ship, and his wife sails with him. Has no place on land he calls his home. I am directed to ask you, if you think best, for a dispensation to receive and act upon his application in less than the required time.

Ans. Have no authority to assume jurisdiction. The rule is imperative that candidates must have a residence in the State one year to be eligible, and within the jurisdiction of the lodge six months next preceding their application."

He recommends that a Digest of jurisprudence should be compiled and approved by Grand Lodge.

The Treasurer's receipts for the past year were \$5,092.00; disbursements \$5,171.09, including \$500.00 to the Charity Fund; balance on hand, \$808.70. The Charity Fund consists of bonds and stock to the amount of \$18,000.00. Number of lodges, 174; initiations, 870; members, 19,139.

The following resolution offered by Bro. Josiah H. Drummond was adopted :—

"Resolved, That the Committee on Digest of Decisions be discharged, and that the publication of a "Maine Masonic Text Book," the monitorial portion to be approved by the Grand Lecturer, and the portion relating to jurisprudence and proceedings in lodges by the Grand Master, be approved."

It was decided that the word "month" in the Constitution means a *lunar* month.

A most remarkable case appears in the following report

which we copy in full. We agree with the Committee in condemning the action of the plaintiff in making the allusion to Masonry as utterly wrong and unjustifiable. It cannot be condemned too strongly, and should be repudiated by all Masons as entirely contrary to the spirit of our Institution :—

“ The special committee, to which was referred so much of the address of Grand Master Cargill last year, as relates to an alleged attempt to influence members of a jury, in the trial of a cause, by a party, by allusions to masonry, have examined the matter and ask leave to report :

They find that the case has been published and widely circulated in this State.

It was an action in the Supreme Court of the State for an alleged libel, of the grossest character, if the publication was false.

The plaintiff, being a lawyer, opened his own case to the jury, in which he stated that the man sued (who was the publisher of the newspaper) was merely a nominal defendant, but that another party, whom he named, was the writer of the libel, and the real defendant. After stating this and some other matters, in giving an account of an interview that he had with this party, the report of the case is as follows :—

‘ I appealed to him as a man and a brother mason to go home and ——— ’ (counsel for defence interrupting). ‘ This is intolerable.’
Court. ‘ I think so too.’

‘ After a colloquy between court and counsel,’ he proceeded.

The counsel for the defendant in his opening said :

‘ I ask of you to lay aside, for the time being, any possible prejudices or convictions, or sympathies which you may have obtained, from the spread-eagle speech which has nothing to do with the case, three-quarters of it, and was only dragged in, as I must suppose, either in the excitement of the moment, which I should scarcely interpret to be the case with a man who had practiced so long at the bar, or for the purpose, the *illegitimate* purpose of prejudicing your minds. For instance, I would like to know by what authority any counsel, any party in this court, either as counsel or otherwise, stands up before a jury of twelve men, who are sworn to try the case according to the law and the evidence, and appeals to *masonry*.’

In the closing argument the counsel for the defendant said :

‘ And I must call your attention once more to the allusion, which he dared to make in this Court House, to *Masonry*. Now I have no unkind word to say of that institution, but I *do* say, when that institution creeps into the court house, and is appealed to by parties, it is *doomed* ; for, if there is any spot on the face of the earth that should be free from bias, and every outside influence, it is a court of justice and a jury of our country. I know not but some of you may be masons. I care not, but as men and as sworn jurors, I appeal to you, not only to disregard any such appeal to your affinities, but to rebuke it.’

The plaintiff, who opened the case, was then a mason ; neither the defendant or his counsel was a mason ; and there is no doubt that there were several masons on the jury ; and they rendered a verdict for the plaintiff of \$5,508.

The committee have looked no further than the printed report for what took place upon the trial.

Whether the allusion to masonry was made with any design to influence the jury or not, the committee express no opinion, upon the evidence herein presented.

If such was the design, it deserves the severest punishment, as it was a perversion of masonry of the grossest character, and the most dangerous in its tendency.

If it was not so designed, the injury to masonry is scarcely less, as those who looked on may well have supposed that it was designed. The allusion was utterly wrong and cannot be justified, whatever may have been the cause of it.

If masons are allowed to carry the institution into courts of justice to influence proceedings there, it at once becomes dangerous in the highest degree, and as the counsel said, it is *doomed*, and, moreover, every true mason will add, it *ought* to be doomed.

There are difficulties in having this matter investigated in the lodge, as will readily be seen; it is scarcely too much to say that the matter cannot be fairly examined there; and without the least reflection whatever upon the lodge or its members, as this Grand Lodge has the power, under its Constitution, to take original jurisdiction in such cases, we recommend that the party in question be summoned before the Grand Lodge, at its next Annual Communication, to answer in the premises, and that a committee be appointed to prepare charges, and, under the direction of the Grand Master, put the case in a condition to be heard.'

We again observe two suspensions set aside as inadequate, and expulsion substituted. No appeal is taken from the suspension by either party, and no notice given to either party before the punishment is increased. We would like to hear from Bro. Drummond how he justifies this action under their Constitution, and where is the authority for it in their Constitution.

A lodge was justly censured for excusing all but two of its members from balloting for a candidate and thereby impairing the effect of the secret ballot.

Dakota, Indian Territory, Manitoba, and Prince Edward Island were recognized.

We approve of the following :—

"*Resolved*, That no Brother charged with unmasonic conduct, and on trial before any lodge, or this Grand Lodge, should be refused a right to testify in his own behalf."

The sum of \$938.00 was applied to the relief of 56 cases of need.

The report on correspondence is one of the best. It covers 142 pages of small type and gives a vast amount of useful information in Bro. Drummond's clear and interesting manner. Under the head of California he says :—

"As usual, the report of Grand Secretary Abell is full, giving a statement of the unfinished business, of the appealed cases, of all communications from abroad, and in fine, of all matters requiring the action of the Grand Lodge. As usual, every lodge had made its returns and paid its dues. The Grand Secretary says that that fact has become chronic in that State "in consequence, perhaps, of the persistent obstinacy of

the Grand Secretary, who rather prefers to have the laws complied with." "Persistent obstinacy" is good, but does not meet the case: "obstinate persistence" comes nearer the mark. To be sure we have never fully credited the rumor that Bro. A. when the returns do not come in time, goes for them in person, and sits down on the Secretary's door step and refuses to go in or away until the returns are forthcoming: but we *have* supposed that the rumor arose from the general belief in that State that he would do all that if the returns did not come; and so the 'coon comes down without waiting to be shot!"

He has the following on dimitts. We agree with him. Our practice here is to give a brother who wishes to withdraw a "certificate of his standing" *be it good or bad*. He is entitled to this certificate whenever he asks for it, and it must be produced to any other lodge to which he may apply for membership: —

"This matter of dimitts has been the source of much perplexity in this State. Our Constitution prescribes neither the form or substance of a dimit. The form in general use contains the recommendatory certificate. No dimit can be granted, save by a vote of the lodge. We know at least one case in which a lodge refused a dimit because its members would not vote a recommendatory certificate, but would have voted a certificate of withdrawal without any recommendation. But, says one, if you cannot recommend him you should file charges against him and try him. But often a lodge would refuse to admit a member when it would be impossible to convict him on any specific charges. Grand Master Perkins clearly recognizes this and commends it. But can one rightfully vote to recommend to membership in another lodge one-whom he would refuse to admit to membership in his own lodge? As our law stands, we see no impropriety in changing our form of dimit to a simple certificate of termination of membership, and then if the lodge chooses to vote a recommendation in addition, it can do so and have a suitable form for that purpose. We object to retaining a member against his will; but we object more to giving a recommendation to another lodge to a member of whom we are happy to get rid, and who could not again obtain membership in our own lodge."

Under "Canada, 1875," he says:

"A proposition was made, and under the rules laid over till the next year, changing the name of the Grand Lodge from "Canada" to "Ontario." We see no necessity for this change and shall be sorry to see it adopted. We do not believe that the brethren in the other Provinces will feel aggrieved if the Grand Lodge of Canada retains her old name.

Bro. Henry Robertson presented the Report on Correspondence (79 pages), mostly devoted to excellent extracts. He believes in the "freedom of masonry," and therefore objects to a proposal to prohibit the granting of dimitts except for change of membership; holds to the right of visitation modified by the right and duty of the Master to exclude a visitor for the preservation of the harmony of the lodge; thinks the Indiana plan of Grand Lodge representation by Districts (instead of lodges) would "make it an oligarchy which is entirely contrary to the spirit of our institution"; protests against the introduction

into masonry of any "American Monroe-doctrine," as tending to destroy the universality of our fraternity and derogatory to the dignity of Grand Lodges.

In his review of Quebec, he dissents from a decision of the Grand Lodge that a candidate receiving sixteen votes against fifteen and one blank was legally elected. As this same question has been decided the same way with us, we notice his objections. His proposition that a "candidate receiving sixteen votes out of thirty-two does not have a majority" is self evident. *But a blank is not a vote*, and even if it could be considered as "a vote thrown against the successful candidate," it is an *illegal* vote. It says virtually, I object to *electing any body*; but the by-laws say there *shall be* an election; hence if construed as a vote it is an illegal one. Suppose one not a member should be unanimously elected Master, must not the presiding officer declare the election void? Votes for persons ineligible must be thrown out as void, and so must blanks. The opposite doctrine would lead to confusion."

On this last question we see no reason to change our opinion. The only real point made by Bro. Drummond, is that "*a blank is not a vote.*" If this be so, then Bro. Drummond is right, otherwise he is wrong. We do not consider that a blank is an *illegal* vote. We think that an *illegal* vote is one cast by a person who has no right to vote. We believe that there is no such thing as an *illegal* vote cast by a brother who has a right to vote. We believe that all votes cast by brothers who have a right to vote on the particular election taking place are strictly and masonically *legal* votes, whether they be cast for Bro. A. or Bro. B., or President Hayes or Lord Dufferin or the King of the Cannibal Islands. If His Majesty should happen to be elected Master, we presume the presiding officer would declare the election void, but not on the ground of the illegality of the votes. It would be on the correct ground that the elect was not eligible—that he was not qualified to be elected or to fill that particular office—that by law certain qualifications are required for Master, which His Majesty did not possess, and therefore his election was void.

We also differ from Bro. Drummond as to what a blank vote says. He thinks it says: "I object to electing anybody." We think not. It says: "I object to voting for either or any of the candidates. I vote against all. My candidate has no chance of success. I do not like the others. Therefore I vote *blank.*" Of course he might just as well vote for His aforesaid Majesty, there is no difference between the two votes. He knows there must be an election, and that he must vote or else retire from the lodge. So he votes blank, and we think *it is a vote*, and just as legal as any other. He thereby expressed his disapproval of the brother who received 16 votes, just as much as if he had voted for his opponent.

It was necessary to the election that the elect should have a majority of the votes cast by the members present. We cannot comprehend how 16 can be a majority out of 32. And we think that Bro. Drummond's doctrine would lead to more confusion and uncertainty than ours, for by it a minority would elect officers against the expressed wish of the majority, which, surely would not be satisfactory either in a Masonic Lodge or any where else.

Under the head of Colorado, Bro. Drummond condemns the new-fangled way in which some Grand Lodges are opened. Surely a Grand Lodge is competent to open itself without any assistance from a lodge of Master Masons, and we think with him that there is some danger in allowing these things to pass into usage as if they were right.

"At the Annual Communication twelve lodges were represented: a lodge of Master Masons was opened by the Deputy Grand Master, and thereupon the Grand Master, upon the assurance of the Grand Secretary that a constitutional number of lodges were represented, opened the Grand Lodge in ample form.

Laying aside the agony of opening a Grand Lodge in this style, we object to it on principle. At the appointed time, the Grand Master should open the Grand Lodge, provided there are enough members present to *make a Master's lodge*. Then he should see who are entitled to seats and if there is a quorum to do business. If there is not, he must call off from time to time till he gets a quorum. Of course if he cannot get enough members (*three*) to *open* the Grand Lodge at the appointed time, the session must lapse; but if he opens it, and there is no quorum present to do business he can prolong the session till he gets one. Any one who will read the history of our Grand Lodges from 1825 to 1850 will appreciate the correctness of these views. It may be said that this new method is harmless; but that is not certain, as in a short time usages grow into laws: on this account we should be extremely cautious in introducing new ones."

We cordially commend the following remarks on the belief in the Bible:

"He holds that masonry requires a belief in the *inspiration* of the Scriptures. We say that the Bible "is the inestimable gift from God to man;" and by this, he says, we mean that it is inspired; and he concurs with Bro. Wellford in saying that all along in masonry, every allusion to the Great Light, and the extracts from it, are predicated upon its divine inspiration.

We agree with him that when the Bible is used, it is used as an *inspired* book: in other countries the book which gives the knowledge of Deity is, with those who use it, an *inspired* book. Masonry requires a belief in Deity, and that the Great Light is *his word*; with us, that Great Light is the Bible; in other countries, it may be the Koran; but the suggestion that one book may be substituted for another, because it is in some part of the world held to be the Great Light, is utterly unmasonic. We have received masonry, as founded upon the Bible; as we received it, we must impart it; yet we cannot deny recognition to a brother believing

in God, but another book as the Great Light, who received masonry as founded upon that book. This is the utmost limit of *masonic* toleration; we may, as individuals "tolerate" an atheist, but as masons, *never*."

We also copy his views on the necessity of showing the Warrant of the lodge to visitors which we find in his notice of Missouri:—

"The Grand Master decided that a visitor has no right to see the charter of the lodge, until he has been properly vouched for, or passed a satisfactory examination. But the Grand Lodge adopted the following: '*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that a visiting Brother has a right, after he has taken the test oath, to call for and see the charter under which the lodge works.'

This comes very near the decision of our Grand Lodge, but not quite, and, as we think, is not quite correct. No mason has the right to run any risk of disclosing any of the secrets of masonry to any person not authorized to receive them. A strange visitor should have absolute knowledge that parties proposing to examine him are authorized to do so, and the fact that he has information that the body he proposes to visit is a regular lodge, unless he has it from some one he knows to be a mason, is not sufficient. The charter is a public document; it proves its own genuineness: and the production of it is a sufficient guaranty that those who have possession of it, are a regular lodge. We hold, therefore, that the first thing to be done in the examination of a stranger, is for the committee to satisfy him, *by the production of the charter*, that their body is a regular lodge, and, therefore, they are duly authorized to examine him.

He also discusses the right of visitors to see the charter. He says that not one visitor in ten thousand has any doubt as to the legality of the lodge he is about to visit, and the charter is usually called for by those only who want to show that they are smart. We protest against this: no stranger has any right to be without "any doubt" as to whether it is a regular lodge, or indeed a lodge at all. His suggestion that a visitor who examines a charter can tell nothing as to its genuineness, places too low an estimate upon their intelligence; the seal of the Grand Lodge is affixed for the very purpose of showing its genuineness. He says further:

'No, from personal observation of years we are satisfied that the great bulk of such visitors call for the charter just to show how smart and important they are; and the way we get around such fellows is simply this: we ask him if he came here to visit a masonic lodge, and he says yes, and he wants to see the charter—we merely say that we are using it as a part of the lodge and if he wants to see it he must prove himself worthy to go in and look at it in its proper place, and if he is able to get in and does not find the charter there, then he can retire without having held masonic communication with a clandestine lodge. As a general thing such 'smart Alexs' come to the conclusion that it is a masonic lodge they are trying to visit, and as it is a rule to be examined, they had better stand the test and go through in the good old way. However, on two occasions we had visitors who had said they had heard that there were clandestine lodges in the city, and that they knew the signature and seal of our Grand Lodge, and should be better satisfied to see our warrant. Now there was some sense and reason in such a request, and it was granted, the lodge suspending work for a moment. But for a person who does

not know one charter from another to demand it, like a Tycoon, it is simply ridiculous.'

This looks to us as if the attempted smartness was on the other side : and the just reply would be 'you act so much like the manner in which I suppose a clandestine mason would act, that I will not run the risk of imparting any genuine masonry to you.'

But we quoted this mainly to repudiate the ridiculous idea that the lodge must stop work while the charter is shown to the visitor ; there is no masonic law that we know of that makes one particular apartment the only place where the charter can be when the lodge is at work. The charter may be in the hands of the committee in another apartment, and be in the possession of the Master and lodge as fully as if the Master holds it in his hand. There may be some peculiar provision in the local law of Missouri which requires so literal a construction : but there is none in Maine. And we repeat that a visitor should not be obliged to ask to see the charter, but the first thing done by the Committee of Examination should be to exhibit the charter to him."

And under Pennsylvania :—

"A regulation was adopted that a rejected candidate may apply after a year to the same lodge, or to any other with the consent of the rejecting lodge ; the facts are required to be stated in the petition ; before the ballot is taken upon such application, special notice thereof, and of the time of the ballot, must be sent to each member, *and the ballot must not be taken within one hour of the time named in the notice for the opening of the lodge.* This last clause is a good one : if it had been the law of this State, it would have prevented the smuggling in, in more than one case, of a candidate objectionable to many members. It is no crime to call a meeting before the usual hour, open promptly at the time and proceed to dispatch the business. And it is very difficult to prove that a presiding officer, relying upon the habit of members to come at a particular time, called the meeting half an hour earlier than usual, with the intent of having a candidate accepted and the first degree partially conferred before the arrival of members who, he suspected, would reject the candidate ; yet it is morally certain that this has been done in Maine."

At the close of his report, Bro. Drummond deals exhaustively with the "colored question," and gives a history which is worth preservation as well as a statement of the present condition of these Grand Lodges :—

"The Grand Masters of Ohio and Minnesota have raised the question as to the duty of masons towards those organizations of the colored people of this country, existing in every state of our Union, which claim to be duly constituted lodges and Grand Lodges of regular masons. We say these Grand Masters have raised the question ; perhaps we should say that the parties interested have raised it *through* those Grand Masters ; at any rate those parties have endeavored to bring their claims to the notice of Grand Lodges, and we cannot refuse to consider claims when made in the name of masonry. It would be contrary to our earliest teachings to shrink from the examination of any demand made upon us in the name of our institution. There should be, therefore, no shrinking from meeting this matter squarely, and settling it on *principle*.

If it has already been settled, let the fact be declared. But above all, we should bring to its discussion, the same calm, deliberate judgment that marks the true mason; passion and prejudice, enthusiasm and undue sympathy, should equally be laid aside. While we should be ready to do justice, though the heavens fall, we must do justice to masonry and masons, as well as to others. We make these remarks preliminary to our discussion, because we have observed a tendency in some quarters to deal in denunciation and threats rather than argument. No threats of what may fall thereon will deter any mason from doing what he regards to be his duty; and they should avail nothing in the settlement of this question.

As there are no organizations in Maine (or New Hampshire or Vermont) of the character in question, we might seem to have no interest in this matter; but our relations are so intimate with all the other Grand Lodges, that our interest is really scarcely less than in the States in which these organizations exist.

These organizations have been recognized by some foreign Grand Bodies; we perceive that in some quarters stress is placed upon that fact; but it is now too well settled to be disputed, that the Grand Lodges of this country will settle such questions for themselves, and they will recognize no Grand Body unless they deem it entitled to recognition, whatever may be the action of the Masonic Authorities in Europe or South America.

In 1775, probably on the 6th day of March, Prince Hall and thirteen other colored men received the degrees of masonry in a traveling lodge, attached to one of the regiments of the British Army, then stationed in Boston. Whether this was done to enable these men to form a lodge or not, or why it was done, does not appear. But they at once commenced meeting as a lodge, without any authority. It has been claimed that they had a dispensation, under which they worked; but no evidence of this has been produced; there is no record of such a dispensation in London, and it is very certain that the Provincial Grand Master did not grant any to them; and, moreover, *dispensations* for the organization of new lodges were not then known in this country. The charter of Portland Lodge was granted directly by the Provincial Grand Master in 1769. The terms 'warrant,' charter' and 'deputation' were then used in this connection, but the term 'dispensation' was then applied only to dispensing with the law by the Grand Master in a particular case. In 1784, an application was sent to England for a charter: in the letter of transmittal, dated March 1, 1784, Prince Hall says that the lodge had been founded almost eight years, but that there had been until then, no opportunity to apply for a warrant. The Grand Lodge of England (Modern) granted a charter for African Lodge in the usual form, September 29, 1784; but it was not received, or the lodge organized under it, until 1787. Official documents show that it continued to work and make returns to the Grand Lodge until 1798, and there is little doubt that it continued to work until the death of Prince Hall, in 1807. In 1797, Prince Hall granted a dispensation for a lodge in Philadelphia, to which a charter was afterwards issued, but whether by African Lodge or Prince Hall, we have not ascertained. It has been claimed that Prince Hall was "a Deputy Grand Master, with all the powers and authority pertaining to that office" when he issued that dispensation, and that he issued it as such; but not only is there no evidence that he was a Deputy, but the evidence is plenary that he was not; indeed, one writer bases the legality of this Pennsylvania lodge upon the right of a lodge to charter other lodges. According to a contemporaneous document, a portion of the petitioners (at least) for this dispensation were made Masons in England, and one or more in

Ireland. One authority (Woodlin) supposes that African Lodge was then assuming to act as a Grand Lodge, but no other, so far as we can discover, makes any such claim. Soon after, Prince Hall established another lodge in Providence, Rhode Island. In 1808, African Lodge and these two lodges, established by itself, or by Prince Hall, organized a Grand Lodge at Boston. After 1808, there is a blank in the published history of African Lodge, and there is no doubt that it became dormant, if not actually extinct. In January, 1824, a petition was sent to England, reciting the issuing of the old charter, and stating that it authorized the conferring of only three degrees, and soliciting the "renewal of our charter," to authorize them to confer the seven degrees. This petition purports to be signed by the Master and Wardens, and attested by the Secretary. They say, "It is with regret we communicate to you, that, from the decease of our well-beloved brethren who obtained the warrant, we have not been able for several years to transmit moneys and hold a regular communication; but as we are now permanently established to work conformable to our warrant and Book of Constitutions, we will send the moneys as circumstances will admit, together with the money for a new warrant, should your Honorable Body think us worthy to receive the same." To this petition no answer was returned, as the Grand Lodge of England, at the time of the union in 1813, had dropped African Lodge from its registry, and it never afterwards restored it. In 1827, getting no answer to their petition, African Lodge published a Declaration of Independence. In this document it is stated that the original charter "appears to have been confined exclusively to the Africans and to certain conditions. Whether these conditions have been complied with by our ancestors, we are unable to say; but we can add, that in consequence of the decease of the above named brother (Prince Hall), *the institution was for years unable to proceed*, for want of one to conduct its affairs agreeably to what is required in every regular and well-educated lodge of masons." Not having heard from the Grand Lodge of England, it declared itself "free and independent of any lodge from this day, and that we will not be tributary, or be governed by any lodge than that of our own." How many years after Hall's death the lodge was "unable to proceed," we cannot ascertain; it was probably till about 1824; and whether the lodge was resuscitated by its old members, or by others, does not appear. Woodlin says, Nero Prince succeeded Prince Hall, but presided only one year; that the third Master was George Middleton; the next, Perth Lewis, and the next, Samuel H. Moody; the latter signed the petition in 1824, above mentioned; he also, according to Woodlin, established Harmony Lodge, No. 5, in Providence, in 1825, and Bayer Lodge, in New York, in 1826. John T. Hilton, a man of much ability, succeeded Moody, and after him five others presided before 1836, when Hilton was re-elected, and held the office of Master until 1847, when, under his lead, a National Grand Lodge was formed. Before 1847, he is sometimes styled "Master," and sometimes "Grand Master;" in 1827, in the "Declaration of Independence," he styled himself Master. From these acts of African Lodge in 1827, it seems that the Grand Lodge formed in 1808 was extinct, or had been forgotten, or that its authority was denied, and we have not ascertained when the idea of the independence of African Lodge was given up, or whether the "African Grand Lodge," of which, in 1847, Hilton appears as Grand Master, is the Grand Lodge formed in 1808, or African Lodge itself, or a new Grand Lodge. Before proceeding with the history of the National Grand Lodge, it is necessary to advert briefly to the other organizations in Massachusetts.

In 1733, a Provincial Grand Lodge was formed in Boston, which continued, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England ("Modern"), until the Revolution. In 1756, the schisms among the English Masons reached America, and a lodge of "Ancient" masons was formed under the Grand Lodge of Scotland. An attempt was made to harmonize the two factions in Boston; but it failed, the two never having united, save once, when, on the occasion of the funeral of Provincial Grand Master Jeremy Gridley, they forgot their animosities in their common grief, while partially recognizing each other as masons, they prohibited mutual visitation, as such. This state of things led, in 1769, to the formation of an "Ancient" Grand Lodge under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, with Joseph Warren as Grand Master. Warren was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill, in 1775; and political independence was declared July 4, 1776. The idea of *masonic* independence soon followed; and, upon formal call, the delegates of three of the four "Ancient" lodges met March 8, 1777, and formed an Independent Grand Lodge, and the fourth lodge soon gave in its adhesion. It has been doubted whether these delegates were the *authorized* representatives of the lodges. The lodges were ordered to send delegates for that special purpose; the record so states it; this is sufficient evidence, but it is not all; it was re-stated and re-affirmed, by way of recital, both in 1782 and 1785. In 1782, this Grand Lodge formally promulgated the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction. But it has been argued that, although the Grand Lodge formally announced this doctrine, it was without effect, because there then were, and continued to be, another Grand Lodge and other lodges in Massachusetts. But a decisive and complete answer to this is, that one was "Modern" and the other "Ancient," and neither recognized the other as "*regular*" masons. They maintained towards each other very much the bearing that the "Compact" Colored Grand Lodges and the "Independent" Colored Grand Lodges, in several of the States, now bear towards each other—each denouncing the other as irregular and clandestine. But in 1787, measures began to be taken for a union, which was effected in 1792, as it was in South Carolina in 1808 and again in 1817, and in England in 1813. The union in 1792 was no more a recognition of *concurrent* jurisdiction, than was the union of the two Grand Lodges in New York in 1858. It was a *consequence* of the doctrine *exclusive* jurisdiction, recognized by all concerned.

The doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction was substantially declared by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, June 24, 1779, and re-affirmed October 28, 1785.

On May 26, 1785, a convention of delegates of twelve of the Ancient lodges in Massachusetts met, and after consideration and discussion, adopted a declaration consisting of thirteen Articles. This meeting escaped the notice of all who have discussed the question until 1874, when its proceedings were published in the New England Freemason (Vol I, pp. 465 to 473). The regularity and legality of the formation of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge were affirmed.

To return to the colored organizations. After the formation of the lodge in Philadelphia, in 1797, by Prince Hall, two others were formed there (we presume by African Grand Lodge at Boston), and on December 27, 1815, these three formed a Grand Lodge for Pennsylvania, under the title of 'The First Independent African Grand Lodge of North America.' This title indicates that the Grand Lodge at Boston was then understood to be extinct. In 1818, one of the subordinates of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge, and in 1828 another, were declared rebels and were expelled. But they seem to have continued their work, for in 1833 one of them claimed to have obtained a charter from the Grand Lodge of Ohio,

with authority to form enough more lodges to organize a Grand Lodge. It was claimed that \$125.00 was paid for this authorization, one-half by each lodge. Of course it was a forgery, but it is probable that the recipients of it were imposed upon, as they proceeded under it with apparently perfect confidence. Other lodges were formed, and on July 17, 1837, they organized the Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Between these two Grand Bodies there was a bitter feud until 1847, when John T. Hilton conceived the idea of uniting all the organizations under a National Grand Lodge.

On June 21, 1847, the delegates of the three Grand Lodges (one in Massachusetts and two in Pennsylvania) and from Boyer Lodge in New York, met in Boston, and formed 'The M. W. National Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of Color, for the United States of North America and the Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging.' This Body was to meet once a year, but elect officers once in three years. It had power to grant warrants to State Grand Lodges, and no Grand Lodge could be recognized that did not hold a warrant from it.

Thereupon the two Grand Lodges in Pennsylvania consolidated: a Grand Lodge was formed in New Jersey, June 12, 1848, by four lodges, two holding under each of the lately rival Bodies in Philadelphia; also in 1848, Prince Hall Grand Lodge was formed in Massachusetts by four lodges; the United Grand Lodge in New York by six lodges; Union Grand Lodge of Maryland by three lodges; the Grand Lodge of Ohio; and the Union Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia: there were also one lodge in Rhode Island, one in Connecticut, one in Indiana, one in Louisiana, one in Virginia, one in California and two in Delaware: these were all the lodge organizations then existing, and all under the jurisdiction of the National Grand Lodge.

But trouble soon came: in 1849, at its Annual Session, it "expelled" the Grand Lodge of New York, with three of its subordinates, and a new Grand Lodge was formed Oct. 13, 1849, with six lodges; but the old Grand Lodge continued as Independent: this was followed by a schism in Pennsylvania, and an Independent Grand Lodge was formed there: individuals and one lodge in New Jersey were also expelled.

The National Grand Lodge, after 1850, met triennially. We have seen its Proceedings for 1856, 1862, 1865 and 1874. Those for 1856 give the organization of three Grand Chapters, a Grand Encampment and a Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree. Its Constitution (1865) denounces all Colored Grand Lodges, and lodges not holding under it as spurious and clandestine. Since 1849 there has been a fierce contest between the 'Nationals' and the 'Independents.' The former have been gradually losing ground, and although the National Grand Lodge has quite a number of subordinates, its days are numbered, unless some reaction shall set in to give it new strength.

The Grand Lodges, with character and date of organization, are as follows:

Alabama.—1, National, May 14, 1874; 2, Independent, Sept. 27, 1870.

Arkansas.—Independent, March 28, 1873.

California.—There was a 'National' Grand Lodge formed some years ago, and an 'Independent' in 1871. But recently they have been consolidated; and now there is but one Grand Lodge, independent.

Connecticut.—Independent, November 3, 1873.

Delaware.—1, Hiram Grand Lodge, Independent, 1849; 2, Harmony Grand Lodge, National, 1855.

District of Columbia.—Organized as National in 1848; in 1874, seceded, and now is independent.

Florida.—1, Independent, organized in 1870; 2, we hear that a 'National' has also been formed, but have no definite information.

Georgia.—1, National, June 24, 1870; 2, Independent, June 23, 1874.

Illinois.—National, February 15, 1867.

Indiana.—There have been, and at last advices continued to be, two Grand Lodges in Indiana, one originally National, but within a few years has withdrawn; the other, Independent, but not uniting with the former.

Kansas.—Independent, June 24, 1867.

Kentucky.—National, August 16, 1866. But in 1875 it withdrew from the 'National Compact' and is now 'Independent.'

Louisiana.—Eureka Grand Lodge, 1863, Independent. Other Grand Lodges also have subordinates, and the "Supreme Council" has one.

Maryland.—1, Union Grand Lodge, National, 1848; 2, First Colored Grand Lodge, Independent.

Massachusetts.—Prince Hall Grand Lodge, originally National; it has recently withdrawn from the National Compact.

Michigan.—1, National, April 25, 1865; 2, Independent, September 23, 1872.

Mississippi.—National, 1874.

Missouri.—June 24, 1866; originally "National," but has recently withdrawn, and joined the Independents.

New Jersey.—A "National" Grand Lodge was organized in 1849: and afterwards an Independent was also formed; but in 1875, they consolidated as an Independent Grand Lodge.

New York.—As before stated, the Grand Lodge of New York was expelled, the account says, for "nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety-nine years, nine months and nine days." A new Grand Lodge was formed October 13, 1849. Whether the old Grand Lodge continued its existence, we are unable to say. There is now an Independent Grand Lodge, which is said to have been formed in 1851. There is also a "Compact" Grand Lodge, but we have never seen any document issued by it, and cannot give its history.

North Carolina.—National, March 1, 1870.

Ohio.—Woodlin says it was organized in 1848; but the better authority puts it in 1851; it was originally under the "National Compact," but in 1868 it withdrew, and has been very earnest since in its efforts to procure the dissolution of the National Grand Lodge.

Ontario.—Independent, 1871.

Pennsylvania.—Soon after the formation of the National Grand Lodge, and immediately after the union of the two State Grand Lodges, there was a schism, resulting in two Grand Lodges, as above stated, which are still in existence.

Rhode Island.—There were until recently a "Compact" Grand Lodge, and an Independent Grand Lodge, formed June 24, 1874; but the two consolidated and formed a "Sovereign Grand Lodge," October 27, 1875.

South Carolina.—Compact, June, 1869.

Tennessee.—1, Independent, August 31, 1870; 2, Compact, 1872.

Texas.—Independent, August 19, 1875.

Virginia.—1, Compact, "Union Grand Lodge," February 16, 1866; 2, Independent, in 1867.

In Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin there is no Grand Lodge; the same is true of Canada, except the Province of Ontario.

From this history of these organizations, it will be seen at once that on no ground whatever can the Ohio proposition be sustained.

To recognize them as Independent Grand Lodges is the death of the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction. If Ohio recognizes the African Grand Lodge, she must repeal the ban of non-intercourse with Hamburg and the Grand Orient of France, and recognize those Bodies in New York, New Jersey and Louisiana which she has for so many years declared to be clandestine, and the planting of which was a masonic offense of so grave a character that it put the perpetrators outside the pale of masonry, in her judgment, as well as that of all her sisters.

Again, it introduces into masonry a distinction founded upon race and color, which is contrary to its fundamental principles. But it is said that a distinction founded upon *nationality* has already been introduced, and that it is no more an innovation upon masonic usage and law to grant a charter to men of color, than to grant one to Germans or Frenchmen. We have never believed it right to issue a charter with any stipulation as to the language in which the work is to be done; still, the granting of a charter to men of color, leaving them free to admit whom they please, and placing them under the same government as other lodges, is a very different thing from recognizing an *African Grand Lodge*, and thus saying, "the whites will come with us, the blacks will go with you."

No, the only terms upon which recognition can be granted is the consolidation of the two Grand Organizations into one as the supreme authority over all the subordinates. If these organizations are regular, or merely technically illegal, they should be invited to unite and fuse with the white organizations, as masonic history affords many precedents for doing.

But are they regular? Or are they merely *technically* irregular? Or are they essentially clandestine? If, in 1782, the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction was law, as now held, the first lodge, the source of all the rest, was clandestine. But admitting that African Lodge was a regular lodge, was there a single other *regular* lodge established? The first was formed in 1797 by Prince Hall, who had no other or greater authority than that of Master of a lodge. It is true that anciently lodges were formed without any warrant or charter; but in 1797, it had been the law of the Grand Lodge, under which African Lodge then held its charter and worked, for three-quarters of a century, that "if any set number of masons shall take upon themselves to form a lodge, *without the Grand Master's warrant*, the regular lodges are not to countenance them, nor own them as fair brethren duly formed, nor approve of their acts or deeds" (Eighth Old Regulation). The lodge in Providence was formed in the same manner. These two, with African Lodge, formed a Grand Lodge in 1808. Under the Old Regulation, to which we have referred, these lodges and their Grand Lodge were clandestine; they were clandestine not merely under the masonic law as it now exists, but under the law as it then existed, and had existed nearly a century. Upon a most thorough and careful examination, with an anxiety to arrive at the truth, but with an earnest wish, which we do not hesitate to avow, that the irregularities in these organizations might be healed by legislation, and the universality of masonry demonstrated in a signal manner, we can come to no conclusion than that they are irregular and must be held to be clandestine.

But it is said that they maintain the same principles, have the same forms and ceremonies, and practice the same masonry that we practice, and in the same manner in which we practice it; and why not then heal them, as has been done in other cases, in which the parties healed were held to be equally clandestine? To this (if it is true) one answer is, that

they are not ready. Should we heal the 'Nationals' or the 'Independents'? Although there may be some States in which this question does not arise, yet no policy must be adopted in this matter which is not a general one, and while there are two rival organizations they are not ready to present this question.

But beyond this there is another difficulty, which another generation will remove; many of the members of the colored lodges are not *free born*. It is true that in 1813, the Grand Lodge of England struck out '*free born*' and inserted '*free man*.' But in America, it is a landmark, that no one can be made a mason unless he is *free born*: there may be no reason whatever why a *free man*, though not *free born*, may not be made a mason; but that does not signify, as long as the law is otherwise, and we cannot see how this difficulty can be removed save by time.

We cannot see, therefore, that the masons of to-day can do anything of the character proposed by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, or that they are called upon to recognize, or that they *can* recognize, without a violation of the landmarks of masonry, the organizations to which the resolutions of that Grand Lodge relate. But one thing can be done: the question can be discussed *masonically*, if it is discussed at all. We regret very much to have seen already the words 'falsehood' and 'fanatics' used in a discussion of this matter. The time has gone by when an argument can be answered by denunciation, or men can be scared by the fear of being called 'fanatics': recourse to such terms implies a want of materials for argument, or a want of ability to use materials."

We part from this interesting paper with real regret. There are a number of other extracts which we would like to copy, but space forbids.

We believe that the colored Grand Lodge of Ontario (Independent) was formed in 1871 out of lodges, the majority of whom at that time held allegiance to the Widows' Son Grand Lodge, which had been organized some years previously by lodges who had obtained warrants from colored Grand Lodges in the United States.

M. W. Bro. Albert Moore, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

MANITOBA—1875.

The pamphlet before us contains an account of the organization of this new Grand Lodge, which took place in Winnipeg on May 12th, 1875.

A Convention for the purpose of formation was called by circular, and the three Lodges in the Province were represented.

The following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted:

"That whereas: pursuant to the provisions of the British North America Act, Manitoba, has been formed a separate and distinct province, and as such is legally recognized as one of the confederated provinces of the Dominion of Canada.

And whereas, there is no Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. existing in, or claiming jurisdiction over said province.

And whereas, there are three constitutionally chartered Lodges in active existence therein.

And whereas said Lodges are here duly and constitutionally represented as Lodges.

And whereas, this Convention is of opinion that the harmony, peace and highest interests of Masonry in the Province of Manitoba, require that a Grand Lodge be formed in and for said province and on the following conditions :

That the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada be adopted *Mutatis Mutandis* with the following amendment :

That all bearing upon the office of District Deputy Grand Master be struck out.

And that this Convention in the exercise of its inherent rights and constitutional usage, and acting under and by the instructions of their respective Lodges.

1st. *Resolved*,—That a Grand Lodge be and is hereby declared duly established on the constitution just named.

2nd. *Resolved*,—That the title of the Grand Lodge shall be, "The Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons."

3rd. *Resolved*,—That the said Grand Lodge shall, have, hold and exercise for ever full and sovereign jurisdiction in and over said province."

Also the following :

"That in severing our connection from the Grand Lodge of Canada, we desire to express our most profound gratitude to that venerable body for the kind consideration and attention they have always displayed towards us, both as Lodges and individually, and we most ardently desire that the same parental feeling may always be entertained towards us by our mother Grand Lodge: our connection with which we will remember with the greatest pride and affection. Carried unanimously.

M. W. Bro. Rev. Dr. W. C. Clarke was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. John H. Bell, Grand Secretary.

Bro. George Black, D. D. G. M., was accorded the rank and title of Past Grand Master.

Prince Rupert's Lodge, No. 1, was allowed to wear gold jewels.

The meetings are to be held on the second Wednesday in June.

We wish our young sister every success and prosperity.

MARYLAND—1875.

Annual Communication, held in Baltimore, November 15th.

The Grand Master, Bro. John H. B. Latrobe, refers to the financial position of the Grand Lodge in connection with its Stock debt, on which the interest is in arrear. He complains

that the Grand District Inspectors do not perform their duties. He mentions the death of Bro. Rev. J. N. McJilton, P. G. M., and states that he has prepared and distributed to the lodges a formula for Masonic funerals.

Their Committee on Credentials is termed the "Committee of Conference."

A Memorial appears of the life and masonic services of their late Grand Tyler, Bro. D. A. Piper, who had been prominently connected with the Grand Lodge in various capacities since 1839.

The Committee on Library do not yet feel justified in making an actual beginning, or in calling in the subscriptions until sure of success.

Thanks were voted for a relic, the presentation of which is as follows :

"As a member of Monumental Lodge, No. 96, I have the honor to present to you, and through you to this Grand Lodge for its acceptance, a Sand-stone Plumb-bob found at the ruins of the Temple of Coum-Oumbus in Egypt by Mr. Jas. E. Tyson, a gentleman and merchant of this city of high standing and whose word is reliable.

By the chronicles of that part of the world, it appears the Temple was built about 4000 years ago, or in the time of Abraham, and about 400 years before the birth of Moses.

Intrinsically it is worthless—for its antiquity valuable; and although Mr. Tyson is not a Mason, it shows his respect for our Ancient Institution, and therefore he has requested me to hand it to this Grand Body for their acceptance."

The initiation fee in Baltimore was raised from \$40 to \$50, and the following amendment was adopted :—

"Provided, no Lodge outside the limits of the City of Baltimore shall initiate any candidate who is a resident of said City, nor a City Lodge a resident of any County, without consent of a Lodge in the respective places."

Initiations, 269 ; numbers, 5,575.

The Grand Lodge of Wyoming was recognized.

The Report on Correspondence is by Bro. John M. Carter ; in which our Proceedings for 1874 and 1875 are noticed.

M. W. Bro. John H. B. Latrobe, G. M., R. W. Bro. Jacob H. Medairy, G. Sec'y.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Quarterly Meeting March 10th, 1875.

The Committee on Ritual reported the First Degree. They say :

"Almost every word of the work and lectures of the first degree has

been very carefully weighed and considered. The committee have aimed to present the ritual as nearly as possible in the form in which they believe it existed when the Grand Lodge revised it by committee in 1862. In a few instances we have found that this could not be accomplished without imposing considerable labor upon Brethren, who have made themselves familiar with other forms which have prevailed very generally for several years. In a few such instances, where the matter seemed immaterial, the committee have allowed what they considered as changes to stand.

The committee have further endeavored to make every sentence of the ritual thus far considered, strictly grammatical.

They have also labored to make the work and lectures conform in every particular."

The *New England Freemason*, conducted by Bro. Sereno D. Nickerson, P. G. M., was recommended by Grand Lodge.

The following was adopted :—

Voted, " That a committee of five be appointed to consider and report upon the expediency of adopting some plan whereby all Masonic trials shall be had before some Board or Commission of the Grand Lodge."

The Grand Lodge of Wyoming was recognized, coupled with a doubt as to the expediency of forming " small and therefore weak Grand Lodges "

Quarterly Meeting, June 9th, 1875.

Bro. F. C. Whiston presented to the Grand Lodge the Masonic apron worn by the Marquis de Lafayette, on the occasion of laying the corner stone of Bunker Hill Monument on June 17th, 1825. The apron of Gen. Joseph Warren, P. G. M., was also presented to Grand Lodge, and thanks were voted to the donors for these relics.

The Committee on Trials presented amendments to the Constitution, providing for the appointment of five Commissioners of Trials to conduct all Masonic Trials and to act as Judges, with power to sentence, subject to an appeal to the Grand Lodge. These amendments were referred to another Committee.

The work in the Second and Third Degrees presented by the Committee on Ritual was considered and adopted.

Grand Lodge decided that it was inexpedient to recognize or supervise any Masonic Mutual Relief Associations. We fully agree with this decision. If these Societies are conducted upon business principles and on a proper basis, they will not need any endorsement by Grand Lodge, and if not, they should be discountenanced instead of encouraged.

A Special Meeting was held on August 6th, 1875, to attend the funeral of Bro. Winslow Lewis, P. G. M. who passed away on the 3rd day of August, full of years and of honors. Bro.

Lewis was a remarkable man in many respects, and was known particularly for his devotion to Masonry. He was born in 1799, and initiated in 1830. The following article, written by himself, from the *Boston Masonic Union*, relates the origin of his interest in Masonry :—

“ BOSTON, August 21, 1830.

“ MR. EDITOR,—I am neither Mason nor anti-Mason, or, rather, I was not a few weeks since, but was among that number of the community here who quietly regarded the excitements at a distance as results of political or personal feeling; and, as the attempted bustle in this place was anything but effectual, I rejoiced with the many that our city had shown herself unmoved by the petty restlessness of such a lame minority, and still had sustained for herself what the light of education always bestows,—a cool discrimination amidst such impassioned attempts. These abortions then appeared to me, as such generally are, a half-formed, senseless thing, brought into the world without stamen, without any sources of existence, an attempt

“ Ex fumo dare lucem.”

But at this time I was induced to visit an expose of Masonry, at Boylston Hall, by one Allyn, and was there with many who anticipated some outrageous transactions or silly ceremonies; but, like many, I returned with feelings solemnized at the development of the conferring of the Templar's Degree. It was impossible to extort a smile from the audience, except that of contempt for the dreadful atrocity of him who had trampled on oaths so awful, who, by so doing, must, in the minds of all unprejudiced persons, have sacrificed all principles of shame or character. I am not more acute on such points than others, but I must say that the man who could do as that man did that evening, I should shun more than the midnight assassin or robber. He used the vile and miserable subterfuge, “that he is ready to pay the poor penalty of his body,” and adds, “let them come legally and demand it.” But how will he pay the penalty to his God, whom he so solemnly invoked to bear witness to his vows? Could he look any *man* in the face who then witnessed his expressions, as an honest man should? How can he even dwell for a moment on that hour when he shall be called to the scrutiny of the *All-Seeing*, the penalty of whose judgments he, on taking his Masonic oaths, so directly called upon his head?

Yes, sir, let him make such proselytes as those who that evening upheld him in his blasphemies, as an anti-Masonic committee. But, fear not; a host of such as I there saw would be no addition to an association; such means must be followed by corresponding effects. There was one who witnessed this scene with no unprejudiced eye, who became a convert, not to their purposes, but to the merits of that Institution of which he trusts ere long to become a more intimate admirer.

MERCATOR.”

Some 250 pages of these Proceedings are occupied by the Report of the Committee on his Memorial, giving full details of his life and actions, which are very interesting.

The Annual Communication (142nd) was held in Boston, December 8th, 1875. Bro. Thomas A. Doyle, P. G. M., of Rhode Island, was in attendance, and on behalf of Bro Geo.

H. Smith, of London, England, he presented to the Grand Lodge a portrait of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master. In the course of his remarks he said :

" I refer to the resignation of the office of Grand Master of Masons of England, by the Marquis of Ripon, and the installation of the Prince of Wales as his successor. That this resignation was dictated by the " Prisoner of the Vatican," there can be no doubt; that it was intended as a blow at the only organization that really confronts the powerful Roman Church cannot be doubted, and that the blow has produced an effect directly contrary to what was anticipated is plainly read of all men. It is not the first time in history that Papal decrees have failed in the effects they were intended to secure, and in this instance we have seen Masonry strengthened and given a power that it never possessed before. Already its influence is felt in England, and it will continue to increase in power as the years pass on; and, although we may not see the full fruit thereof, yet, in future years, that installation scene will stand out as one of the great events in history. And what a scene that was, that even he, the chief actor in it,—accustomed from birth to pageants, to receptions and imposing ceremonies, educated to control his feelings and exercise restraint in public,—even he could not suppress his natural impulses, and in his emotion betrayed the grandeur of the hour."

In the annual address of the Grand Master Bro. Percival Lowell Everett we find the following :

" It becomes my duty to caution the Masters of Lodges against impostors and spurious Masons. A man calling himself Professor Charles de Lagarlier (undoubtedly an assumed name), has a room here in Essex street, where he confers what he purports to be the Degrees in Freemasonry. It is said that his victims number about fifty, and that he assures them, when the so-called Lodge has seventy members, they will receive a Charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Our only safeguard, besides a rigid examination, is to demand that strange visitors show their diploma. The Master of a Lodge, at his installation, promises that no visitor shall be received into his Lodge without due examination, *and producing proper vouchers* of his having been initiated in a regular Lodge. These vouchers should be critically examined. It is sometimes annoying to a Brother to be refused admission because he has not his diploma with him; but, if he has a spark of the true spirit of Masonry in him, he will see the justice of this requirement. The Masters of Lodges are therefore hereby directed not to admit visitors unless they produce their diploma, and pass a thorough examination, or can be vouched for by a brother who has sat in a Lodge with them.

He issued five dispensations for new lodges during the year, and reports the number of initiations during 1875 as 1440. The present number of members is 26,698, being an increase of 1,389.

The Grand Lodges of Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, and Dakota, were recognized.

The Committee on Charity disbursed \$1,504 44 for relief to 175 applicants. In their report they say :

"The appeals have, in a large degree, come from a better class of people than ever before. Many mechanics, who have heretofore been amply able to provide for themselves, have been obliged to make their poverty known, and ask even for bread. To those who understand what pride is, it must be apparent how hard this has been in many cases.

As an example of how unfortunate a man may become, your committee would cite one case relieved by them, where the applicant had eaten but one meal per day, for two weeks, lest his children should not have enough. This Brother was a M. M., R. A. M., and Knight Templar. He had been one of the Grand Lecturers of the Grand Lodge, and one of its Board of Relief in the State in which he formerly resided, besides holding many minor offices in Masonic Institutions, as was proved by letters from many prominent Masons, to whom your committee applied for information.

The lack of funds at the disposal of your committee has oftentimes prevented as liberal donations as some cases really demanded. Your committee have endeavored, however, to deal justly by all, and to dispense your charities as carefully and judiciously as possible.

Your committee have exerted themselves to get employment for many Brethren, and in every case but one, so far as we know, the good conduct of the applicant has justified your committee in their exertions.

Your committee have been solicited to assist in paying mortgages, publishing books, securing patent rights, and introducing a valuable tooth-powder,—in all of which cases, in the opinion of the applicants, great good would follow; but your committee have in no case felt justified in 'granting the prayer of petitioners,' but have 'given them leave to withdraw.'"

One thousand dollars was voted for charitable purposes and the same amount towards the completion of the Washington Monument.

R. W. Charles Levi Woodbury stated that he had received a communication from a Lodge in Palermo, Italy, containing a request that the Lodge might become a subordinate Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

R. W. William S. Gardner suggested that it might be well to appoint a committee to whom might be referred this communication from Palermo, as well as the more important question that would seem to be demanding the consideration of the Grand Lodges in this country, viz.: the recognition by foreign Grand Lodges of so called Grand Lodges in any of the United States where regular Grand Lodges are already established.

On motion of Bro. Woodbury, a committee was appointed for this purpose, consisting of R. W. Brothers Charles Levi Woodbury, William S. Gardner and Sereno D. Nickerson.

The Grand Feast was held on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. The toasts and speeches are given in full. From one of the speeches we learn that these Feasts were observed in old times with great strictness:

"About a hundred years or a little more ago, probably about the middle of the last century, one of the leading Masons in Portsmouth was Dr. Jackson, a gentleman of high standing and character, who seems to have got into a dispute in the Lodge; for, on St. John's Day, instead of

joining with his Lodge, he gave a dinner party at his house, about three miles above the town. At the next Lodge meeting, resolutions were introduced to call him to account for not being present at the dinner given by the Lodge on that occasion. And it was very clear, from reading those old records, that it was a serious thing, and that Dr. Jackson had to look around him to see how to get out of the scrape. Evidently there had been a quarrel. He got the committee to postpone the case from one Quarterly Meeting to another, and to wait about a year and a half, until the illtemper, consequent upon this defiance of the Lodge, died away, when he came in, apologized, and received absolution. It was clear that Dr. Jackson came very near expulsion for giving a dinner party on a day when the Lodge celebrated the Feast of Saint John."

They have two lodges in Valparaiso, Chili, called "Bethesda" and "Aconcagua," and one in Shanghai, China, called "Ancient Landmark."

At the Quarterly Meeting on March 8th, 1876, the amendments as to Masonic trials were finally adopted by a vote of 263 to 59. As these amendments involve a "new departure" we copy them in full :

"SECTION 1. The Grand Master shall annually appoint a Board of five members of the Grand Lodge, to be styled *Commissioners of Trials* ; but he may in his discretion appoint a Special Board of Commissioners for the trial of any given cause. All Commissioners shall be Past or Present Masters. The first named of said Board shall be the President thereof, and three members shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of the President the Board may elect a President *pro tempore*. Whenever a member of a Lodge, or a Brother under this jurisdiction, shall be accused of any offence, which, if proved, would subject him to expulsion or suspension from the rights and privileges of Masonry, the proceedings in the premises shall be conducted agreeably to the following rules :—

I. The accusation shall be made in writing, with specifications of the offence, under the signature of a Master Mason, and, if the accused is a member of any Lodge within the jurisdiction, shall be given in charge to the Master thereof, who shall summon his Lodge to act upon the accusation. If the Lodge by a majority vote of its members present determine that the charges require investigation, then the accusation shall be given in charge to the President or President *pro tempore* of the Board, who, under direction of the Board, shall cause the accused to be served with an attested copy of the charges, together with a summons to appear, at a time and place to be named in said summons, and make such answer to the charges and accusations as he may desire. The summons shall be served upon the accused fourteen days, at least, before the return day thereof. Such appearance may be made in person before the President or President *pro tempore*, or by filing an answer in writing with such President. If the residence of the accused be out of the Commonwealth, and unknown, the Commissioners may proceed to examine the charges and accusation *ex parte* ; but if known and out of the Commonwealth, a summons shall be sent by mail or otherwise, sixty days, at least, before the time appointed for his appearance. The service and the return thereof shall be according to regulations to be made by the Commissioners, and, when so made, shall be conclusive.

In case of unaffiliated or sojourning Masons the accusation made as aforesaid shall be given in charge to the President or President *pro tempore* of the Board, and if the Board of Commissioners shall determine that the charges require investigation, the Board shall thereafter proceed in the same manner as above required in the case of an affiliated Mason, whose Lodge has determined that the charges require investigation.

II. The examination upon the charges and accusation shall be had at some convenient place and time, to be designated by the Commissioners, of which due notice shall be given, and no visitors shall be admitted, except as counsel or witnesses. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commissioners, the testimony may be taken by the President or President *pro tempore*, who shall reduce the same to writing, to be submitted to the Board. Witnesses, if Masons, shall testify on their honor as such. Other witnesses shall be duly sworn before their testimony is taken.

III. Any Brother duly authorized may appear as counsel in support of, or in opposition to, the charges during the taking of the testimony and in the argument of the cause.

IV. A full record of the proceedings in each case, whatever may be the result thereof, including the testimony taken, the action of the Commissioners thereon, and the sentence, if any, imposed upon the accused, to be signed by the Commissioners acting in such case, shall be transmitted to the Recording Grand Secretary, by him to be placed on file and presented to the Grand Lodge at the next Quarterly Communication. The action of the Commissioners, including the sentence, if any, imposed upon the respondent, if approved, shall stand as the judgment of the Grand Lodge. The finding of the Commissioners shall be subject to correction or review by the Grand Lodge, who may order a new trial, or otherwise dispose of the case.

V. Any Lodge may, notwithstanding the provisions of this Article, proceed to try any Brother, subject to its jurisdiction, against whom such an accusation as is therein contemplated has been made, *provided* such Lodge, by a majority vote, at the next Stated Communication after the accusation shall have been presented, shall decide in favor of such a trial. In such case all the proceedings in respect to service upon the respondent, the time, place and method of trial, including the sentence, the record and the report to the Grand Lodge, shall conform to the foregoing rules, so far as the same shall be applicable.

SECT. 2. Any five members of a Lodge, or the District Deputy-Grand Master, may impeach the Master of said Lodge before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges; and if, in his opinion, they are well founded and of a character to justify the proceeding, he may suspend the delinquent and summon him to appear for trial before said Commissioners, or such special Commissioners as the Grand Master may appoint. The foregoing rules, as far as the same shall be applicable, shall be observed in the trial of a Master of a Lodge before such Commissioners.

SECT. 3. The Commissioners shall receive for their services, and for necessary expenses in each case, such compensation as the Grand Master shall determine and allow, upon the certificate of the Commissioners.

SECT. 4. An expulsion or suspension of a Brother from any Masonic Body other than a Lodge of Master Masons, or a Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over such Brother, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from Masonry, or from the Lodge of which he is a member.

SECT. 5. No Lodge under this jurisdiction shall expel or suspend a member from the rights of Masonry.

SECT. 6. Forfeiture or suspension of membership shall not be imposed

until the delinquent has been duly notified of the time when and place where action will be taken in his case. If the residence of the delinquent is out of jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, or unknown, no notice shall be required."

Without Article V. of Section I, which was added at the last moment, we think these amendments objectionable, as removing from lodges the right to try their own members.

The last Quarterly Meeting we have before us was held on June 14th, 1876.

The Committee on Ritual presented their report on the new Trestle-Board, ordered by the Grand Lodge, and, on motion of R. W. Tracy P. Cheever, the report was accepted, and the Trestle-Board submitted by the committee was adopted by a unanimous vote, as the only authorized Trestle-Board for the use of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

This Trestle Board contains in print such portions of the ceremonies and work as are proper to be published, including the Installation Ceremony and the Funeral Service.

M. W. Bro. Percival Lowell Everett, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. Charles H. Titus, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN—1875.

Annual communication (31st) held in Detroit, January 26th, with 363 representatives, and Grand officers, and Past Masters present from 321 Lodges.

The Grand Master, Bro. Wm. L. Webber, reports the organization of seven new lodges. He had ordered the publication of a volume of "Compiled Law," giving the Constitution, standing orders, &c. He thinks that Halls should not be occupied jointly with other societies, except in extreme cases. He dedicated eight halls during the year. He appointed Bro. Hugh McCurdy, Chairman of Jurisprudence, to fill a vacancy caused by death. He suspended the Masters of three lodges ; intemperance was the cause of their misconduct in two cases. He gives twenty-four decisions, of which we quote several, with approval :

"S. Question. Has the Master of a Lodge, previous to passing a ballot on the petition of initiation, a right to give the Brethren present an opportunity to make remarks as to the character, etc., of the petitioner ?

Answer. Yes, and there is no impropriety in doing so. The Brethren, however, in their remarks, should not state how they will vote ; they should state such *facts* as are within their knowledge ; and such statements are often necessary to enable the members present to know anything beyond what the report of the committee may state."

"18. Question. A member of our Lodge, who was a member of two other societies, died. In his lifetime he had expressed a wish to be buried

with Masonic honors. The members of the other secret societies with which he was connected desired to participate in the funeral ceremonies. I acceded to their request, and two pall-bearers were appointed from each of the three societies. The funeral ceremonies were performed partly under the direction of the Masons, and partly under the direction of one of the other societies. My conduct on the occasion in joining with the other societies has been criticised, and I desire to know if there is any Masonic rule, edict, or otherwise, which forbids our uniting with other Orders in funerals.

Answer. It is not proper for the Masonic Fraternity to co-mingle in its exercises with any other fraternity whatever. It does not seek to press its services or its ceremonies upon any one; but it cannot consent to assume the performance of any ceremony unless it can perform it as an entirety. You should have taken the entire charge of the funeral services, in connection with the service of the church, and none but Masons should have been pall-bearers, or you should have declined to take any part, officially or Masonically, in it. Where we cannot, without violating our customs and usages, take part in such a ceremony officially, there is nothing to hinder us from going as citizens, and, with the friends of the deceased, joining in the performance of funeral rites. As you state your action, it was irregular; but what has been done cannot be recalled."

"19. Question. Has a Lodge a right to vote money from its treasury to relieve the necessities of a destitute non-affiliated Mason, and for his funeral expenses?

Answer. Yes. A Lodge has a right to vote money from its treasury for any charitable purpose. A Mason does not cease to be one by ceasing to be a member of the Lodge. In the case which you have supposed, it would be a great wrong if a Mason, who had taken his dimit from one Lodge with a view to joining with others in the work of building up a new Lodge, and before his purpose was accomplished, should be taken sick and die,—and our Masonry would be of little value and entitled to little respect from the world,—should we allow him to suffer simply because he did not happen, at the time, to be a member of the Lodge. Masonry existed before Lodges, and the rights of Masons, as such, are independent of membership. I agree that every Mason should be a member of some Lodge, but failing to be a member of a Lodge temporarily is not necessarily a Masonic offence. Our Lodges, I think, should be so conducted as to make it desirable for all non-affiliated Masons to become members with us, for the purpose of promoting their own good and their own happiness. If we undertake, however, to force them into membership, we shall neither do them good nor strengthen ourselves; for membership as well as Masonry should be purely voluntary."

"24. Question. What is the proper course for our Lodge to pursue under the following circumstances:

A member of our Lodge is arrested on a criminal warrant for adultery, and brought before the court. His case is adjourned in court from time to time, and, pending the trial there, charges, with specifications, are preferred in the Lodge against him, charging as unmasonic conduct the same offence as that for which he was arrested in court. Counsel for the accused objects to any proceedings for trial in the Lodge prior to the trial in court, for the reason, as assigned by him, that a conviction in the Lodge would influence the decision of the courts, and claims that should the Lodge proceed to trial, and should the trial result in conviction of the accused, the Lodge will be liable for damages in an action for libel.

Answer. Overrule the objection and proceed to trial as though no such objection had been made. It is frivolous, and if the party charged is

found guilty, expel him. The proceedings had in the Lodge should not be made public. The court and jury that may try him will have no knowledge that any such proceedings have been had in the Lodge. If your Lodge is *leaky*, you need some further trials to remedy that defect."

The Committee on Charity do not think it advisable at present to establish a Masonic Home. The lodges expended for charitable purposes during 1874 the sum of \$11,207.10. Alpena Lodge No. 199 heads the roll of honor with \$1,074.37. There were eighteen cases of appeal. In their conclusion, the committee very justly say :

"Your committee also take occasion to deprecate attempts to use Masonic trials to compel satisfaction of mere personal or business grievances. Masonic offences should be punished without fear or favor ; but mere business difficulties, involving no moral turpitude or Masonic offence, should seek adjustment in some other forum."

A special tax of ten cents per capita was levied to meet the necessary expenses of the Grand Lodge.

There are 321 lodges, returning 1,542 initiated ; 26,051 members, and dues paid to Grand Lodge \$7,239.00.

Bro. Foster Pratt gives a very able and interesting report on correspondence, covering 142 pages, in which our proceedings for 1874 receive due notice.

M. W. Bro. George H. Durand, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. Foster Pratt, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN—1876.

A special meeting was held in Detroit, May 29th, 1875, to lay the corner-stone of the new Public Library.

The annual communication (32nd) was held in Grand Rapids, January 25th, 1876.

Bro. George H. Durand, G. M., reports nine dispensations for new lodges. Among his decisions, we find the following :

"8. Question. Our Lodge has a By-Law declaring that no brother shall be eligible to the office of W. M. who has held the office for two years in succession. Is it valid ?

Answer. No. The only limitation to eligibility to that office is, that the brother must have been elected and installed as Warden of a Chartered Lodge. This having been fixed by the Grand Lodge impliedly prohibits any further limitation by a Chartered Lodge.

"10. Question. A brother in good standing applies for a dimit and is refused. Is he liable to pay dues ?

Answer. Yes. The Lodge has a right to refuse a dimit, and so long as the brother remains a member of the Lodge he is liable to pay dues under our regulations.

We do not agree with the last. It may be according to their regulations, but we think it is bad in principle. We be-

lieve in the *freedom* of Masonry. A brother should be at liberty to stay in or go out just as he pleases. We think every brother *should* belong to a lodge, but we would not make it compulsory. Such an enactment appears degrading to the free character of our fraternity to which every brother who values it deems it an honor to belong. We hold that a lodge has no right to refuse a dimit to a member in good standing.

On the social relations of Masonry, Bro. Durand says :

"It seems to me that an institution of the dignity of Masonry, and one which occupies so high a place as it does in the present history of the world, owes a duty not only to itself but to others in this most important particular. Why should not our Lodges have frequent social gatherings, not once or twice in a year, but as often as once or twice in a month, when the doors shall be thrown open and the wives and sons and daughters of the members admitted to while away a short time in the enjoyment of those innocent amusements which constitute the cohesive power of social life? As no man can live properly and accomplish those ends which our Great Creator meant he should attain to, if deprived of social pleasure, so I maintain that no such organization of men can live and prosper, and continue healthy and strong, if the rules and requirements of social life are either arbitrarily or persistently set at defiance, or entirely neglected."

It was decided by the Grand Lodge, in opposition to the opinion of the Grand Master, that the loss of sight in one eye, the other being sound, is a disqualification. We agree with the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lecturer held schools of instruction in all the districts, and in each county of seven out of ten districts. He reports much interest manifested to obtain the correct work.

A memorial page appears in honor of our late Grand Master, and also the following resolutions :

"*Resolved*, That the death of the M. W. William Mercer Wilson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, is a loss to the Masonic Fraternity everywhere.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Michigan tender its heartfelt sympathies to the Grand Lodge of Canada, in its bereavement by the loss of its distinguished Grand Master.

Resolved, That in our Masonic Brotherhood, National lines of separation are obliterated, and all fraternal sympathy flow in harmony.

Resolved, That the loss from time to time, of the Worthies of the Order, should stimulate the zeal of those who must fill their places, and cement the friendship of the craftsmen.

Resolved, That in view of this event the Grand Lodge of Michigan be draped in mourning.

Resolved, That a Memorial page in our Records be devoted to our deceased Bro. the M. W. William Mercer Wilson."

We are sorry that the able Grand Secretary, Bro. Foster Pratt, was compelled to retire owing to a severe illness. We are glad, however, to notice that he was appointed Chairman

of the Committee on Jurisprudence, a position for which his ability and extensive knowledge of the subject well fits him.

Number of lodges, 330 ; initiations, 1,449 ; members, 26,704 ; dues paid, \$10,146.77.

No report on correspondence.

M. W. Bro. M. H. Maynard, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. E. I. Garfield, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA—1875.

Annual communication (22nd) held in St. Paul, January 12th. Sixty-seven lodges represented.

The Grand Master, Bro. Charles Griswold, mentions the death of Bro. A. E. Ames, their first Grand Master. He refers to distress in the "grasshopper district," and recommends speedy relief. From his decisions we take the following :

"5. A ballot is had upon the application of a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry, and he is declared rejected. At the next regular communication of the Lodge a brother rises and says he thinks he cast the black ball through mistake. Under these circumstances, can the ballot again be opened ? Ans. It can not. When once a candidate has been declared rejected, the ballot can in no case be reopened : and a motion to that effect would be wholly out of order, and should not be entertained.

6. When a brother objects to the advancement of a candidate, who has received one or more of the degrees of Masonry, the W. : M. : should, in every case, decide upon the validity of the objection, and arrest the progress of the candidate or not, as he may deem the best interests of Masonry require. But, if the candidate's advancement is thus arrested, he—the candidate—has a right to demand a trial, in order that he may have the opportunity of meeting his accuser face to face, and answering for himself. He who has taken but *one* degree in Masonry has thereby obtained certain Masonic rights, and among them is that of being heard in his own defence when objections are urged against him.

7. Can a Lodge of Master Masons be opened for the transaction of business when there are less than seven present ? Ans. It can not. As seven Master Masons is the lowest number to whom a Charter or dispensation can be granted, and as a Lodge must surrender its Charter when there are less than that number upon its rolls, therefore no Lodge of Master Masons can be opened, for any purpose whatever, when there are less than seven Master Masons present."

On the subject of Incorporation, Bro. Griswold, after careful consideration, arrived at the following conclusions. We agree with him that it is by no means advisable, and think his remarks are perfectly sound :

"1st. That it is not well for either Grand or Subordinate Lodges to become bodies corporate, and that the best course for us to pursue is, if possible, to obtain legislation repealing the act under which we became such. A corporate body is a creature of the civil law, and any and all of its affairs may be dragged into the courts in a variety of ways, and upon various pretexts. For instance, a brother member of our Grand Lodge or

one of its subordinates, is guilty of some gross misdemeanor ; charges are preferred—he is tried and expelled ; under the plea that the sentence was unduly severe, and the act of the Lodge damaging to his reputation, he applies to the courts for relief ; they may, if they see fit, order the reinstatement of the aggrieved brother, and the Lodge which pronounced the aforesaid sentence, may find hanging over its head a judgment for damages to the amount of some hundreds or thousands of dollars.

Our By-Laws, too, may be subjected to revision by the same powers, or a contested election case may arise, and the civil courts be at last left to determine who shall fill the "*Oriental Chair*." The above cases are not quite all hypothetical, but have, in certain organizations of a secret character, had their counterpart.

Again, old Masons will remember well scenes of a similar nature enacted during the Morgan excitement, when the strong arm of the civil law was stretched forth, and officers and members of Grand and Subordinate Lodges, incorporated under State laws, were summoned to appear and produce records and papers, and questioned with reference to everything pertaining to the business and work of the Lodge. In any body corporate, similar scenes are liable to transpire. For these and other reasons which might be given, I have been forced to the conclusion that the custom of incorporating Masonic Lodges is one that should fall into speedy disuse. "But we must have some provision for holding property." True ; and this leads us to speak of conclusion number two, viz. : That there should be trustees appointed, or elected, for that purpose, under our present State laws for the organization of Boards of Trustees, if they are adapted to our necessities ; and if not, then under special enactments secured to meet the requirements of our case."

His address concludes with a strong remonstrance against "hurrying the work," in which he clearly shows the evils arising from too great haste in conferring the degrees.

Bro. A. T. C. Pierson presented the following, which was adopted :

"WHEREAS : The constitution of this Grand Lodge was adopted more than twenty years since, and,

WHEREAS : There are several provisions in it that are not adapted to the present wants and conditions of Masonry in this jurisdiction. Therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to give the constitution a thorough examination, and report for the action of the Grand Lodge, at its next annual communication, any amendments they may deem necessary."

The Grand Lodge of Quebec was recognized.

Bro. Pierson has a capital report on correspondence of 146 pages. He reviews Canada for 1874. He thinks that a Grand Master has no power to pardon a brother or restore him to membership because he has been sufficiently punished. On the absurd doctrine held in Texas and some other States, that a lodge has a never-ending jurisdiction over its rejected material, Bro. Pierson has the following :

"A applies to a Lodge for the degrees ; he is in good standing in the

community, not a word can be said against his moral worth, but some one, upon whose corns he has accidentally trod, takes advantage of position, and casts a black ball. A is rejected; members are surprised, and many, perhaps, chagrined; but all must and *should* acquiesce without comment.

After a time, A emigrates to another part of the country, and in the course of years concludes that, as he has a favorable opinion of Masonry, and would like to be a member, he will apply to the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he then resides. In every respect his moral character stands very high in the community, and he is elected to receive the degrees. When ready for initiation, the S. : D. : says, 'Mr. A, have you made application to a Lodge and been rejected?'

It is an impertinent question, and it is none of the business of the Lodge or any of its members whether A had been rejected or not.

A answers, 'I was, in Lodge T, where I then resided.'

S. : D. :—'Very sorry, Mr. A, but we can't initiate you without the consent of Lodge T.'

A.—'Why, that was upwards of twenty years since.'

S. : D. :—'Can't help it, if it was upwards of a hundred; the moment that you made application to Lodge T, you, without being aware of the fact, forever placed your Masonic fate in its hands.'

We regard such 'Charity' as—peculiar."

And on Masonic Mutual Relief Associations he says :

"It is a mistake calling them 'Masonic;' there is no Masonry about them. As a cheap Life Insurance, they are a very good institution, provided one dies pretty soon. The trouble is, as Bro. Cushing remarks, in their certainty. In the comparatively few years since their beginning, we have known three or four to burst up. But call things by their right names; say, Cheap Life Insurance Society, confined to members of the Masonic Fraternity."

The returns from 111 lodges show 546 initiated and 6,203 members; dues, \$4,147.00.

M. W. Bro. Charles Griswold, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. E. D. B. Porter, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA—1876.

Annual communication (23rd) held in St. Paul, January 11th, with 75 lodges represented. The address of Bro. Chas. Griswold, G. M., is an able and well written document. He alludes to the death of our late Grand Master in feeling terms. He issued five dispensations for new lodges, and refused a much larger number of applications. He justly condemns as most dishonorable the action of a lodge in recommending a petition for a new lodge and then sending word privately to the Grand Master not to grant it. We copy one decision approvingly :

"Application is made for the degrees of Masonry—the candidate is rejected—whereupon the brother who brought in the petition becomes very indignant, and declares, both in the Lodge and elsewhere that said Lodge shall do no more work if he can help it; that he will black-ball every can-

didate who applies for the degrees. Since that time, every petitioner has been rejected. From this state of affairs, the Lodge is suffering severe inconvenience. What course should be pursued?

Answer. The making of such a declaration as the one above referred to is, in itself, a *gross* Masonic offence, and, in such a case, charges should be at once preferred and trial had, followed by expulsion from the fraternity. Whenever a brother becomes so possessed by the dog-in-the-manger spirit, that he will neither eat nor allow any one else to eat, and disgraces himself and degrades Masonry by making it the vehicle of his personal spite, we have no further need of his services; we can do him no good; there is no possible Masonic use to which he can be put; and he should, therefore, be driven very speedily from our midst."

He thinks that dual membership is a nuisance which should be abolished, in which we do not agree with him. It is fully allowed here, and we find no great inconvenience resulting. But, with us, suspension from one lodge for any cause suspends from all, and this prevents one of the troubles of which Bro. Griswold complains.

He thinks that the "colored" Grand Lodges are not clandestine; "that their Masonic genealogy is as clear, true, unmis-takeable, and as easily traced as our own," and that they must some time be recognized.

The following was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That hereafter the committee on granting charters report specially who shall be considered as charter members, and that the issuance of the charter shall be considered as terminating the membership of such in any other Lodge; and all M. M. Masons signing a petition for a Dispensation for a new Lodge shall be clear of all dues to any Lodge or Lodges of which he was theretofore a member."

The rest of the business was local.

There are 115 lodges, returning 476 initiations, 5,967 members, and \$4,287.00 dues.

Bro. A. T. C. Pierson has another of his good reports on correspondence, in which we find Canada for 1875. He approves of our manner of legislation, as avoiding the evils of too hasty action.

On the "temperance" question, he says:

"We will admit all that any one can say in reprobation of spirituous liquors, either as to making, selling, or using; and, although until the very nature of all mankind can be re-made, and society in every nation on earth can be revolutionized, it is the most forlorn of all "forlorn hopes," yet we are willing to cast our lot with those who are making war upon the making, selling, or using the pernicious thing. And we say right here, that we war upon it because our experience that it is of the "devil, devilish," has not been very inconsiderable.

But we do not consider this war any part of our duty as a Mason; nay, we sincerely believe that the endeavor to make the world believe that

Masonry is the great temperance society of the age, is doing a positive injury to the craft."

In his review of Ohio he condemns their proposed recognition of the African Grand Lodge, on the ground that it would nullify the American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction of Grand Lodges. He says :

"The adoption of the resolution proposed by the Grand Lodge of Ohio would be playing into the hands of that of Hamburg, breaking the American phalanx, destroying our system of Masonry, opening the door to Hamburg and other European powers to establish their Lodges wherever they chose in this country, *and all for what?*

Unfortunately, Ohio would not be the only sufferer ; there is not a State in the Union but that would share in the devastation brought upon the country by her suicidal course.

This is not the question of the negro, but of the perpetuity of Masonry in America. The negro question can be solved without rending the American system into fragments, *and more satisfactory to the better informed of those interested* than that proposed.

The negro question can be solved without doing violence to any of the landmarks, laws, customs or usages of the craft, perchance the ambitions of neither color would be gratified.

The question has never come before the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. If it does, or when it does, the Grand Lodge will be prepared to meet it. The other question has, and the Grand Lodge of Minnesota stands pledged to sustain and maintain the position, that she is and must of necessity be, sovereign within the bounds of the State.

If Ohio in the past has done wrong—and, from her own showing, it appears that she has—let her make amends. Do it Masonically, but not in a way that, while not benefiting the colored man, will do more injury to the craft than all the Oberlinites could do in a thousand years—injuries that time can never rectify."

M. W. Bro. James C. Braden, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI—1875.

Annual communication (55th), held in St. Louis, October 12th, with 179 lodges represented.

The address of the Grand Master, Bro. John W. Luke, shows the hand of the practised workman. It is full of good things. In his opening remarks he says :

"We welcome among us those members who appear here for the first time to participate with us in our counsels, especially those younger in years. We need their youthful vigor and buoyancy to give tone and freshness to our minds, and their fervent glow of hope to animate us in our work. As we gain strength from them, the experience of those of maturer years, and the conservative nature of our institution, will tone down youthful impetunosity ; and, with increase of knowledge, more enlarged views of responsibility will be acquired, so that the ardent and even rash youth of the day will in time become the conservative man of the future. * * * * *

It might have been supposed that the labors of my predecessors for several years had exhausted every question of jurisprudence or usage that could in any way present itself; but the ingenuity of the brethren, in inventing new issues and making the reverse appear to be the meaning of a law, is perfectly wonderful, and, when actual intricate cases do not present themselves to call forth inquiry, they propound suppositious ones. Now, I concede that it is a duty to be always as ready to give, as others will be to receive, information; but there is no use in speculating upon imaginary probable contingencies, and inventing such issues to waste time and labor upon, when there is plenty of real current work to be attended to. 'Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.' All such speculative questions I therefore declined to answer unless an actual case were presented, and for the further reason that questions so presented might assume a different aspect when viewed in the light of all attendant circumstances.

It might be seriously objected to that the Grand Master should be considered as a kind of living index to all the published By-laws and decisions of the Grand Lodge, so that brethren never think of any search on their part, but actually write for information, stating that they know there is such a law or decision, but it is handier to write a few lines to the Grand Master than to examine for themselves. Nevertheless, with two unimportant exceptions, overlooked by me, I answered all the letters I received."

His decisions are generally sound. We copy four which we approve, and which should receive further publicity :

"It is the right of a visitor to a Lodge, should he desire it, to be assured of its being a legal Lodge by an exhibition to him of the charter, but not before he has been properly vouched for, or has passed a satisfactory examination.

It is improper for a Lodge, as such, to attend the funeral of a deceased brother, except to perform the last rites (Masonic) at the grave, or to escort the remains to the place of embarkation whence they are to be conveyed out of its jurisdiction for interment.

The widow of a Master Mason, when she marries a profane, loses thereby all claims on the Fraternity. Should the decree of a court of law grant her a divorce from her second husband, it cannot make her in fact a widow, or restore her Masonic privileges.

When a trial has been concluded, and the verdict and penalty, if any, announced, the jurisdiction of the Lodge over that particular case is ended, and there can be no reopening of it, or setting aside the result, by the Worshipful Master, or the unanimous vote of the Lodge on the plea of illegality, or for any other cause, unless so ordered by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master."

On the joint occupancy of Masonic Halls, he says :

"In answer to numerous enquiries about joint occupancy of Lodgerooms with Grangers and Patrons of Husbandry, I replied that, in the meaning of the term, "exclusively moral and benevolent organizations," occurring in the 20th decision of Most Worshipful Grand Master R. E. Anderson, the foregoing organizations were not included.

Whilst it is very desirable that our Lodges should be exclusive occupants of their halls, the application of this law requires modification in cases where any Lodges had pre-existing engagements of joint occu-

pancy, or were only tenants themselves for specific times without any other control of the premises, or were located where no other suitable quarters could be found. But any new engagements entered into, or renewal of old ones, or continued joint occupancy in violation of this law, when suitable quarters can be had elsewhere, should not be countenanced so long as the law is in existence."

He declined to grant dispensations,

"To perform Masonic ceremonies over the grave of a deceased brother whose remains had been interred some weeks previously.

To have a public procession, and dedication of a Masonic burial ground. For this ceremony, however appropriate it might be, he knew of no form that had ever been approved by this Grand Lodge.

To Lebanon Lodge, No. 77, to hold a new election of officers at a stated meeting subsequent to their annual meeting for election. Cause of request: The Worshipful Master elect, who was not present on the election night, positively refused to serve. The Past Master holding over was well qualified, and members should be more careful in their selection of officers.

In the case of a vote for Lodge removal which would have made sixteen votes two-thirds of twenty-eight. He could not allow such a specimen of arithmetic to be recorded in any Lodge, upon his authority."

He thinks their District Deputy system should be improved. Their business cannot be successfully managed without these officers, but their duties and powers should be enlarged and more clearly defined.

A large proportion of the lodges are in a sound and prosperous condition. On the moral standing of the members, he says :

"The question would arise: Why should there be so many occasions for discipline in an institution that professes only to admit good men and true? Does admission into it make men worse? And, as the world outside makes the character of the worst members its standard of estimate for the whole, our Lodges gain or lose accordingly the respect of the communities in which they are situated, and, with it, all their influence for good.

The foregoing evils are the result of individual neglect and carelessness, in committees and at the ballot-box. Legislation cannot eradicate them, nor laws make good Masons out of bad material; and, when any of these evils become chronic in a Lodge, justice to the Fraternity at large requires that that avenue of admission into it should be closed—if not voluntarily by the members themselves, then by higher authority. I speak as unto wise men; judge ye what I say,"

The Grand Lecturer reports very decided improvement in the work of the lodges during the past year, and his lodges of Instruction better attended.

The most important matter in these proceedings is a question of jurisdiction with the Grand Lodge of Scotland. A resident of Missouri, while on a visit to Scotland, received the degrees in a lodge there. Missouri objected to this, and the

correspondence thereon is given in full in the special report of the Grand Secretary on this subject, from which we make the following extracts, showing the position taken on both sides :

“ VILLA PANMURE, CANNES,
ALPES MARITIMES, FRANCE, March 29, 1870. } ”

“ SIR AND BROTHER—I have only this day received your letter of the 25th of January last, in which you call my attention to the fact that an American citizen has been initiated into the Craft, passed and raised, in a Lodge in Paisley. I confess that I can see no irregularity in this, and should certainly not consider it a subject of grievance if any Lodge in Missouri did the same to a countryman of mine, who might desire in that country to join them. If the Grand Lodge of Scotland had proposed to erect a Lodge hailing under her banner in Missouri, that would have been an invasion of your jurisdiction which could not be justified; but I hold that any Lodge on the face of the globe, being satisfied that a man is of full age and of sound morals, may admit him to membership, of whatever nation he may be. Such is my individual opinion, but I shall submit your letter to the Grand Secretary, to ascertain if the Grand Lodge takes my view of the matter, and likewise that he may explain the other matters referred to in your letter.

“ I have the honor to be, yours fraternally,

DALHOUSIE,
Grand Master of Scotland.

“ My address, and the Grand Secretary’s, is Freemasons’ Hall, Edinburgh.”

To this letter of the Grand Master of Scotland, I submitted the following reply :

“ OFFICE GRAND SECRETARY,
GRAND LODGE A. F. & A. M., STATE OF MO., }
St. Louis, April 19, 1870. ”

“ EARL DALHOUSIE, *Grand Master of Masons of Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland :*

“ MOST WORSHIPFUL AND DEAR BROTHER—Your esteemed favor of 29th March, at hand to-day. Thanks for your prompt reply and full expression of your views on the question at issue.

“ From your letter, I observe that you hold that citizenship does not enter into Grand Lodge jurisdictional questions, but that any Subordinate has the power to make a sojourner a Mason. This, I take it, is the theory of the Scotch practice, and, as such, is the opposite of that observed by American Grand Bodies.

“ I will here state that no Lodge in the United States would dare to make a Mason of a foreigner, or of one of an adjoining State, unless the party had acquired citizenship by a *bona fide* residence at least one year. No number of years would give us jurisdiction, if the party claimed any other State or country as his *home*. I think the reasons for this usage will be palpable to your mind by a brief explanation—per example :

“ John Smith is a resident of St. Louis—is well known. He applies for the degrees, and is rejected on account of a bad character known only to few members of the Lodge. His parents were Scotch; he visits Scotland, and finds Masonic friends among his relations; he sojourns a few

weeks or months, and before he returns home he receives the degrees in a Scotch Lodge; he presents his diploma here and demands admittance; he is refused for two reasons, viz.: 1st, his bad character; 2nd, he had no right to receive the degrees away from home without our consent. He is permanently ruled out; he writes to his Scotch Lodge, and the members thereof naturally feel agrieved; hence, bad feelings grow up between the two jurisdictions.

"The case might be reversed upon your view of the question, but, fortunately for the American usage, no such case can occur against one of our Lodges."

"The imaginary case of John Smith is parallel to the one of John Burnside, of whom I wrote in January last, except that Brother Burnside's character is good; yet the principle involved is the same.

"In performing this duty imposed by my Grand Lodge, I have to request that you will exercise your good offices in remedying the cause of this complaint, by suggesting to your Most Worshipful Grand Lodge the propriety of instructing its daughter Lodges to respect the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge by not making Masons of citizens of Missouri while sojourning in Scotland on temporary business or pleasure.

"I do not, Most Worshipful Brother, pretend to deny or dispute the legality of your view, but if such were the general usage, in a country like ours, where rejected candidates are continually moving from one place to another, all the safeguards of Masonic harmony would be broken down, and criminations between one jurisdiction and another would become the order of the day.

"Your great experience and judgment will cause you to see at a glance how a great wrong may be done against our Lodges, should it be once known to rejected candidates that they can get the degrees almost at sight the first time they visit Europe, and that, too, at less prices than we charge here.

"Some years ago, a Lodge in New York City made a Mason of a citizen of Missouri sojourning in that State on business, after having been rejected by a Lodge in this city. Our Grand Lodge remonstrated in fraternal terms, but the Grand Lodge of New York did not properly attend to the matter, and it resulted in this Grand Lodge severing all Masonic communication between the two bodies, which unhappy condition of affairs continued until the question was finally settled, and amicable relations again restored.

"There is no more sacred principle in Masonic jurisprudence in this country than strict obedience to this very issue of Grand Lodge jurisdiction; it is one on which depends much of the harmony between the States and other countries, and, as we respect the jurisdictional limits and powers of others, we have also to ask that others shall respect ours. I think you will grant that this is not asking too much.

"It will ever be the great pleasure of our Grand Lodge to receive and continue a fraternal correspondence, and to entertain and accommodate our Scotch brethren, and I shall, therefore, renew the earnest request that this question will receive your official attention at the next session of your Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

"With many regards, I am, Most Worshipful Brother,

Truly and fraternally yours,

[SEAL.]

GEO. FRANK GOULEY,

Grand Secretary and Committee on Correspondence."

* * * * "During the year 1873, I made arrangements for

a personal statement of the case to the Grand Lodge of Scotland by one of its members, in the hope that the final result would be more satisfactory than that promised by correspondence, and waited until too late to report at our last Annual Communication; but, as it now appears that nothing can be done to change the policy of the Grand Lodge of Scotland upon the question of jurisdiction, we are left to choose between the alternative of accepting the system of *universal jurisdiction* over our candidates by European Grand Lodges, or of sustaining our past policy of severing Masonic communication with the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

That the adoption of the first would be a departure from the general American system of Grand Lodges, as between themselves, is apparent to all of us. On the other hand, to adopt the last alternative, of Masonic separation, would be, as it always is, painful to the Masonic heart, whose every true impulse is harmony and brotherly love. It will be observed, I hope, that, as your official organ, I commenced the correspondence as mildly as the circumstances would permit, and only unveiled the alternative, step by step, as the necessity of the case demanded. This Grand Lodge has never been recognized by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, beyond the visitation of members of Lodges: and, as it is a rule with that Grand Body to hold no official communication except after such recognition has been officially exchanged, has rendered it doubly difficult for me to correspond, as it were, in the dark and addressing the air, as there was no surety that a single letter reached the body of the Grand Lodge, or was acted upon, beyond the fact learned through Right Worshipful Brother Blackie, of Tennessee, that the Grand Lodge, by report of its Board of General Purposes, confirmed the views of the then Grand Master, Earl Dalhousie.

We can imagine but one middle course in this difficulty, viz.: to make a special treaty with that particular Grand Lodge, in which would be adopted its policy of considering all Scotch and Missouri citizens as common candidates between the two jurisdictions—in other words, to accept the policy as set forth in the letter of the Scotch Grand Master. Such an arrangement has never yet been made by an American Grand Lodge, we believe, and how far it would be acceptable to them we are not prepared to say, although we hold it to be the right of each sovereign Masonic power to do as it will with its own jurisdiction, over its own citizens as candidates, so long as it does not compromise the rights of other Grand Bodies. This course would not be a compromise beyond being a step towards yielding that absolute sovereignty held by the American bodies ever since their organization, although never held by our European sisters, as between themselves, especially in Continental Europe. There, the question of boundary or citizenship is never raised; hence, the laxity exhibited when dealing with our citizens as visitors in their midst and applying for the mysteries. In discussing questions of international Masonic law, we must not lose sight of old and well-established customs among grand Lodges before any existed in our country. We must take into consideration, for example, that Scotland may think it as impertinent in us to dictate her boundaries from an American stand-point, as we do for her to respect our system of jurisdiction between the States, for she is older than we are, and may claim the precedence in dictation, or in suggesting the law which should govern the rights as between her and ourselves.

The law of jurisdiction is, after all, one of safety and harmony between States like ours, as referred to in my letter of April 19, 1870, and is purely American, and from necessity; but, how far that necessity should compel us to assert it across the ocean is for you to decide.

Having, we believe, given all the time which the importance of the case justifies, and having endeavored to arrive at an amicable adjustment, while yet adhering to the well-settled policy of this Grand Lodge, we submit it to your wisdom for final settlement."

We now give the report of the Special Committee on the case of Scotland, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge :

"The Special Committee appointed to investigate the question of jurisdiction between the Grand Lodge of Missouri and the Grand Lodge of Scotland, submit the following report as the result of their deliberation :

This question was raised by the Grand Lodge of Missouri in the year 1868, upon information that a citizen of Missouri, while on a visit to Scotland, was made a Mason in a Lodge working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. He returned to his home, made his Masonic claims known, and our Grand Lodge refused to recognize him as a Mason. The Grand Lodge of Missouri, believing that its jurisdictional rights had been infringed by the act of a foreign Grand Lodge, promptly took the case in hand, and ordered a correspondence of enquiry and explanation to be opened with the Grand Lodge of Scotland. This correspondence and the various reports upon it have been conducted by our Grand Secretary and the officers of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, with an exemplary exhibition of forbearance and fraternal regard on both sides. But, after years of earnest, patient effort, the question at issue, as it stands now, is no nearer settled than it was in 1868. We have, however, arrived at a thorough understanding of all the conditions and interests involved, and may, we think, proceed safely and honorably to an amicable settlement of this long-pending case. The whole matter rests solely with us, and we owe it to ourselves and Masonry to treat it in such a manner as shall but promote the harmony and good fellowship which are distinguishing characteristics of the Masonic Order.

We presented our side of the question with Scotland, as involving a fondly cherished principle of Grand Lodge jurisdiction, for the integrity of which we have had many serious controversies. Scotland had made a Mason of a citizen of Missouri who was temporarily sojourning in the country, and in view of the principle at stake we condemned the act, and entered a protest against the practice.

Scotland, fully understanding our position on the question of jurisdiction, still claimed the right to make a Mason of a temporary sojourner, be he a citizen of the United States or any other country, provided he was found worthy. Citizenship had nothing whatever to do with the right of any Lodge in Scotland to make Masons under their own laws and usage. The same usage and exercise of right prevailed in England and in all the Grand Lodge jurisdictions of Continental Europe, and this is, and always has been, their practice. They respect territorial jurisdiction so far as planting Lodges is concerned, but do not recognize any vested or acquired rights of jurisdiction in citizenship. They firmly denied our right to dictate to them whom they should not make Masons on their own soil, in accordance with their own long-established usage, and did not propose to interfere with us in similar cases. Of course our laws prohibit us from accepting this interchange of Masonic civilities under like conditions, and this brings us to the American system of Grand Lodge jurisdiction. It is distinctly and exclusively American ; is unknown and finds no recognition among Grand Lodges of any foreign

country. It was simply rendered necessary here for protection, in view of the roving character of our population.

Now we come squarely face to face with the situation and vital issue between the Grand Lodge of Missouri—a comparatively young organization—and the Grand Lodge of Scotland, one of the oldest and most noted Masonic *Landmarks* in the world. We differ upon a question of jurisdictional rights and usages. There are just two modes of settlement, and we may choose either. One is to *break up* our fellowship with the Grand Lodge of Scotland. By this course we lock our doors against Scotch Masons, and in consistency and effect debar ourselves from visiting any Lodge wherein a Scotch Mason is admitted. We also go so far as to disturb the fraternal intercourse of the Masonic world. Let us avoid this. The other way is fraternal concession, and without any sacrifice of our Masonic principles. When the question was raised we were not so familiar with this foreign usage as our correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Scotland has made us. We have lived and learned. Let us profit by our knowledge. Let us not try our good old Scotch brethren by new and peculiar American laws, in an effort to force Scotland's recognition of an essentially and exclusively American usage and regulation.

We yield this point of jurisdictional right so far as the Grand Lodge of Scotland and other European jurisdictions are concerned, while reaffirming the principle and usage in our relations with American Grand Jurisdictions ; thus asserting anew the cosmopolitan spirit of our widespread brotherhood.

We recognize the Universal Jurisdiction which has so long prevailed among the Grand Lodges of Europe, without yielding or in any degree compromising the principle which is one of the safeguards of the Order in America, and firmly adhering as ever to a resistance of any Grand Lodge planting Subordinate Lodges within the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge whose sovereignty we have recognized, and which principle has been so properly recognized also by the Grand Master of Scotland in his letter of March 29th, 1870.

This view and disposition of the case involves a recognition of the citizen of Missouri, who was made a Mason while a sojourner in Scotland, as a legally made Mason."

We congratulate the Grand Lodge of Missouri on having disposed of this very difficult subject in so satisfactory a manner, and without any sacrifice of principle or loss of dignity. We are satisfied that it is quite impossible to get the European Grand Lodges to recognize this local law as one of universal application, and it would be very unwise to attempt it. The rule works well here, and seems to be a necessity in the United States and Canada, but it will be better to limit its operation to those jurisdictions where it is acceptable.

The Grand Lodges of Quebec, Manitoba and Dakota were recognized.

There were 34 appeals disposed of ; 17 were dismissed and 10 allowed.

It was

Resolved, " That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that a visiting

brother has the right, after he has taken the test oath, to call for and see the charter under which the Lodge works."

Also,

Resolved, "That it is the order of this Grand Lodge that hereafter the Subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction shall not become incorporated under the laws of the State."

The rest of the business was local. There are 489 lodges; making returns 430; initiated, 1,085; members 22,822; decrease since last report 1,010. Fifty-five lodges failed to make returns, and 99 failed to pay dues.

The report on correspondence by Bro. Geo. Frank Gouley is excellent, as usual. Canada for 1874 and 1875 is well noticed. On our attendance, he says:

"Thirty-nine Grand Officers (including eleven D. D. G. M.) were present, also fifty Past Grand Officers, and one hundred and fifteen Past Masters, making two hundred and four members besides the representatives of two hundred and thirty-nine lodges, making a total of at least four hundred and sixty members and voters, which we believe to be the largest aggregate, in proportion to the two hundred and eighty-eight lodges on the roll, ever before assembled by any Grand Lodge in the world."

He thinks our Benevolence account forms "an exhibit of which any Grand Lodge may well be proud."

Under the head of "Colorado," he has his say about our lodge at Jerusalem:

"We did not write to Brother Morris, but told him personally what we thought about that kind of a circus; but then, Brother Ed., you know how it is with Brother Bob—he would not give a cent for a lodge like any other one—not even one that could pay dues—for we see by the Proceedings that the Grand Lodge of Canada has had to remit them. It is pretty hard on Solomon's Mother, but, being dead, we suppose she can stand it after having had David for a husband, along with several other wives for company."

Under "Indiana" he again pitches into their new-fangled method of opening the Grand Lodge:

"There is nothing like having hired men to do one's work. The following we extract from the Minutes:

OPENING.

A lodge of Master Masons was opened in ample form, when, it appearing that a constitutional number of subordinate lodges were duly represented; after prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana duly opened for dispatch of business.

Who these "Master Masons" were, where they came from, whence they got their charter? what they did after opening, how and who closed them, what right they had to decide whether the Grand Lodge of the

State had a quorum or not, how they were to tell who were and who were not proper delegates, neither the deponent or the record saith not. How the Grand Lodge was opened, on what degree, or by what law the Grand Master can simply "declare" it open, the record is also silent.

After the Grand Lodge of Indiana had passed a law whereby a majority can suspend a member, and yet require an unanimous vote to get back again, and also that a lodge can try and expel its Master, we had thought that it had accomplished enough of queer things; but the way it gets itself opened, beats *hari-kari*, and must have been borrowed from the Chinese. We would go the length of our cable-tow to see a Master Mason's Lodge opened in AMPLE FORM, and see how it looked opened without a single officer being mentioned as present. Even young Colorado had to take only one look at this sort of opening to get enough of it. Our hoosier brethren are a mighty good-hearted set of fellows, but they are full of practical jokes, you know.

Having now got the Grand Lodge split open, we will see what they did."

Under "Kentucky," he thus comments, and correctly, on illiterate candidates :

"We regret that our good brother lends any aid to such wilful ignorance in an age of public schools and free education as this is. How any man can grow to the years of maturity in this country and the last half of this century, and not know how to write, is incomprehensible to us. A man who has such a splendid memory alluded to by the committee ought to be able to learn to read in a month, and study only at nights; and after that he could learn to write in a month more. We once knew a man who was a perfect prodigy in memory—so much so that he gave exhibitions and made a fortune out of them—but had to have a man go with him to put on his clothes and wash his face, as he did not have sense enough even for that. So that memory is not the only qualification, and we grant that writing is not the only one either, for some men can write so nice that they can sign another man's name so well to a check that a banker will cash it. What we want is, that a candidate must be a good man and true, and possess those mental qualifications which prove him to be a person of at least ordinary intelligence. A lodge of members who can neither read nor write need not be bothered having the minutes read, and a jurisdiction of such would spare the Grand Lodge the expense of printing its Proceedings."

And under "Pennsylvania" we find some good information as to visitors from Missouri :

"It is also our law here, and we say to our Pennsylvania brethren, if they ever have to examine a Missouri visitor who says he was not compelled to learn the whole of the first and second degree lectures before advancement, don't admit him, but send him back to learn them over, for any lodge in this jurisdiction who fails to comply with this law, stands a chance of having its charter arrested."

M. W. Bro. James E. Cadle, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro Geo. Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI—1875.

Annual Communication (57th) held in Meridian, Feb'y 8th.

The address of the Grand Master, Bro. A. H. Barkley, gives full details of all his official acts. We copy his remarks on the condition of Masonry :—

“ It affords me pleasure to report that from all the information received, our subordinate Lodges, generally speaking, are in a healthy condition. The exceptions will be noted in their place in another part of this address.

The rigid discipline enforced by my predecessors in office, and the earnest and commendable efforts of Masters and Subordinate Lodges to execute the laws and regulations adopted by this Grand Body for their government, have served to correct many of the irregularities, and checked, if not wholly eradicated, the vices of intemperance, gambling and profanity, which at one time characterized many who claimed to be Masons. This wholesale discipline has proved, in most cases, the salvation of those who have hitherto been addicted to these vices, in that they were thereby reclaimed to the Order, whilst in a very few instances only, after all lenient measures had been exhausted, some were made to feel the bitterness of the penalty of a violated law. And thus the honor of this law has been maintained, and the standard of Masonry elevated. The moral tone has greatly improved, iniquity in high places sternly rebuked, and a comparatively healthful growth characterizes the greater portion of our Subordinate Lodges.

During the past Masonic year, but few new Lodges have been added to our roll, and in no instance was a dispensation granted except where necessity seemed to demand it. So far as information has reached us, these new Lodges are in a prosperous condition, and they have thus far admitted none save such as would reflect honor upon the Fraternity.

From these facts, gleaned from many sources, and obtained only after diligent enquiry and personal inspection, we have cause to congratulate each other upon the condition of Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction.”

And on Special Dispensations :—

“ In granting Dispensations to confer Degrees without regard to time, I have confined myself strictly to Sec. 16 of the By-laws. In no instance have I granted a Dispensation to retake the ballot on the petition of one rejected for initiation, although I have frequently been applied to for such authority. In granting Dispensations to retake the ballot, on the petition of candidates rejected for advancement, I have done so only in such cases as strict justice seemed to demand, and upon assurances voluntarily made that the rejection was based upon information which afterwards was discovered to be false.

I have ever been the advocate of strict conformity to the By-laws and Regulations adopted by this Grand Body for the government of its Subordinate Lodges, and, as Grand Master, I have felt bound to enforce them to the very letter, having due regard to the spirit and intent thereof.

If these Regulations are too sweeping, and the enforcement of them defeats the end intended to be accomplished thereby, then let us repeal them, and adopt others in their stead, but whilst they exist, let it be the settled purpose of every true Mason to live in obedience thereto.

I refused Dispensations in five instances, to retake the ballot on rejected candidates.

Application was made to me for a Dispensation to receive and act upon the petition of a man who had lost a foot, which I, of course, did

not grant, but suggested a study of the Landmarks of Masonry, the Ancient Constitutions, Charges and Regulations, and obedience to Sec. 78, of Rules and Regulations, for the government of Subordinate Lodges.

I was asked to grant a Dispensation to confer the second and third Degrees on a candidate without regard to time, for the purpose of enabling him to petition for the Chapter Degrees, in order that the said candidate might petition for and receive the Commandery Degrees, and thus be prepared to attend the meeting of the Grand Encampment of the United States, which convened in the city of New Orleans, in December last.

I have great veneration for Capitular Masonry, and will yield to no one in my attachment for, and devotion to the Order of Knights Templar, (having received the Degrees in both the Commandery and Chapter,) but I could not get my consent to see any advantage which might accrue to Ancient York Masonry in making it a stepping-stone to something else, nor could I, by any process of reasoning known to Masons, make this a case of emergency, and, therefore, I declined to grant the Dispensation.

I declined to grant a Dispensation to confer the third Degree on the son of a Master Mason, out of the usual time, for reasons which, at that time, appeared to me satisfactory. But, after more mature deliberation, I was constrained to believe that Master Masons' sons are entitled to some consideration at our hands, which is not granted to others. The facts which weighed upon my mind, and caused me to change my decision, were the following :

1st. The brother who asked the Dispensation on behalf of his son has devoted a life-long service to the cause of Masonry.

2nd. For many years he has presided in the East, and now in his riper years, by the united suffrages of his brethren, he has again been elected Worshipful Master of his Lodge.

3rd. But a few days more are needed to complete the allotted time, and feeling assured that the needful work of instruction in this particular case would not be neglected, I yielded to the solicitation and granted the Dispensation. I submit the case to your impartial judgment, at the same time assuring you of my entire readiness to acquiesce in whatever may be your decision."

Also, on electioneering for office :

"In Masonry the office should seek the man, and not the man the office. If a brother possess real merit, if he have those qualifications which are so essential to one in an official position, his brethren will be the very first to find them out, and in due time he shall have his reward. The election of officers, either in the Grand Lodge or its subordinates, should ever be the result of a free and enlightened choice of its members. The vile spirit of *canva-sing*, which belongs to the world, should forever be banished from the sacred precincts of the Lodge room. Thus far our Grand Lodge has measurably been free from its pernicious effects, and I trust that it may ever remain so. How far it has gained access to our subordinate Lodges, or to what extent it is practiced there, we have not now the means of ascertaining. One instance alone has come to our knowledge, and the rebuke administered in this case, we trust, will serve, in all time to come, to prevent its reappearance, not only in that particular Lodge, but in every Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction.

The introduction of this spirit would banish harmony from our Lodges, and sap the very foundation of our usefulness as a fraternity.

It would sunder the three-fold cord of brotherhood, and give loose rein to bitterness, dissension and strife, and I call on you to-day as the representatives of the craft throughout the State, in Grand Lodge assembled, to crush out this evil in its very incipency. Let your voices be heard against it, and frown upon it, by sternly and resolutely refusing to give your support to any one for office who shall be found guilty of this vile practice.

These thoughts have been called forth by the following case, submitted to us for our decision :

On the 7th of January last, official information was received stating these facts : That, on the night for the election of officers in Lauderdale Lodge, No. 308, a brother solicited votes of brethren for an elective office of this Lodge, and distributed tickets with his name written thereon during the time the election was being held. On counting the votes he was declared elected on the first ballot. The fact, as above stated, was not known to the brother who presided as W. : Master on the night of the election. On the night for installation the brother who presided as Master at the election objected to the installation of the brother elect on the grounds *that he had electioneered for the office*. I decided that, inasmuch as the ballot had thus been tampered with, and apparently trammelled by the proceedings had, that the election in that particular case was not a free and voluntary expression of the choice of the members. After mature deliberation, therefore, I issued my special edict, annulling the election in this case, and ordered the W. : Master to hold another election, giving ten days' notice to the members, and report the result to the Grand Secretary's office. This is to me a novel case. I know of no law in this or any other Grand Jurisdiction which is applicable to it. I submit my action in the premises, and trust it may meet with your approval."

In laying the corner stone of a Masonic Temple at Okolona the following occurred :

"Among the deposits made were twenty-five specimens from the Holy Land, which, as a Representative of the Mother Solomon Lodge at Jerusalem, I ordered placed in the casket, and in obedience to my order, the deposit was made by P. M. Savery, Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Mississippi, as the Proxy of the Worshipful Master of Royal Solomon Mother Lodge at Jerusalem."

Nine Dispensations were issued for new Lodges and one for the renewal of an extinct Lodge.

In the course of a debate in Grand Lodge, the Grand Master decided that a motion to lay on the table is unmasonic and out of order. We agree.

The Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence in Mississippi act during all the time that Grand Lodge is not in session. They answer all questions submitted to them by lodges or brethren. A copy of the question is sent by the applicant to each member of the Committee, who live in different parts of the State. The answers are sent to the Chairman, who then transmits the decision arrived at to the applicant. This method of procedure must prove of great assistance to the

Grand Master and a saving of his valuable time, which is often unnecessarily taken up in answering simple questions. In their report the Committee give thirty questions out of a much larger number answered during the past year. We copy three :—

Question 16. A man marries a widow (which often happens), and she has a daughter under age. He becomes a Master Mason after marriage. Is the stepdaughter under the protection of the Masons?

Answer. There are no special obligations resting on the Fraternity, but the man marrying the mother should take special care of the daughter.

Question 17. A Fellow-craft is raised, and after it is done, a member announces that he saw him drunk a short time before. What ought to be done in the premises?

Answer. The committee are not certain, but rather incline to the opinion that the offence is blotted out by raising the brother. The one who saw the Degree conferred and then gave the information, ought to be reprimanded, and the newly made brother ought to "sin no more."

Question 30. Is it legal and consistent with the organization of our Order for brethren to practice law in a Grand Lodge or any of its subordinates,—or, in other words, is it proper for professional brethren to appear as counsel and take fees in favor of or against a brother on trial for a Masonic offence?

Answer. Rule 9th, on page 30 says that the prosecutor or any Mason he may select, may comment on the evidence. The accused, or any Mason he may desire to represent him, may be heard in reply. In the absence of a positive law authorizing or prohibiting it, your Committee give it as their opinion that it is incompatible with the nature and objects of our institution for brethren to take fees to prosecute or defend a brother on trial for a Masonic offence in a Masonic lodge."

The Grand Lodge decided that any Mason guilty of electioneering for office is liable to a charge of unmasonic conduct.

The sum of \$250 was voted to Bro. Gathright for his report on foreign correspondence.

The now celebrated "Spight case" was up again, and occupies some 18 pages of the Proceedings. We cannot attempt to condense the matter so as to give an intelligent view of the whole case, as so many extra points appear to have been brought into it, but the following will tell something about it. The conclusion of the report of the committee is :

"In conclusion, your Committee submit that the real question at issue is, shall a Subordinate Lodge be sustained and supported in trampling under foot the plain requirements of the laws made for its government by the Grand Lodge, because forsooth it chooses to rid itself of an objectionable, or a disagreeable member in an unlawful manner? If under color of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge it can do this unchallenged, here is an end to all law and order, and you may as well cease your functions as a Grand Lodge and assume a more modest title. If you sustain the view that Subordinate Lodges may suspend and expel whom they please and as they please, and that there is but a half-way redress for

such wrongs—a view so diametrically opposed to common justice and common sense as to force the conviction that in this grand jurisdiction Masonic justice is a mockery, and the form of trial a solemn farce—it would be but common justice to so declare the law and thereby put an end to the troublesome matter of deciding appeals from the decisions of Subordinate Lodges on trials. Let it be declared that it is the deliberate sense of this Grand Lodge that it can exercise no control over Lodge membership; that its Subordinates may admit whom they please and suspend and expel at pleasure, regardless of the Ancient Constitutions and laws of Masonry, and on appeal from the decision of a Subordinate Lodge so suspending or expelling a member the Grand Lodge solemnly declares the right of appeal a farce, the power to redress grievances a myth, and the Rules for the Government of Subordinate Lodges on Trials a gross infraction upon their absolute and indefeasible right to control their membership.

It is absurd, is it? Well, we think so, too, but if you are not prepared to go so far, pray where will you halt short of it? There is no middle ground to be occupied, for if the Grand Lodge may place limitations upon the method of admitting members, it may also place a limitation upon the method of expelling them. If the Grand Lodge cannot say to its subordinates in appeal cases, 'We have examined your record; we find your proceedings wrong; they are, therefore, null and void; put the brother back where he was when the charges were preferred, and try him again upon the same or other charges, as you may elect.' It virtually says to it: 'We have examined your record; we find your proceedings wrong; but as you are *supreme* in your control over your membership, and may expel or suspend whom you please, we are powerless to redress the grievance you have inflicted upon your brother; we restore him to the benefits and privileges of Masonry; but he must be deprived of his membership, not because you have ousted him lawfully, for, on the contrary, we find that you have not, but because you will it, and he and we must be content to abide by your sovereign pleasure.'

This report was not adopted. It represents the views of one party. The other party offered the following as a substitute for the report, and, after a long discussion, the substitute was adopted:

"WHEREAS, Ripley Lodge, No. 47, convicted S. R. Spight on charges and specifications, for unmasonic conduct in August, 1870, and suspended him indefinitely; and

"WHEREAS, in October following, he petitioned said Lodge for restoration, and after laying over one month, he was rejected; and in January following the said Spight appealed to the Grand Lodge. The appeal was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals, six members of which to wit: Wm. Cothran, Jas. M. Howry, Thos. S. Gathright, T. N. Martin, B. B. Paddock and Jas. T. Fant, recommended that the action of Ripley Lodge, No. 47, be affirmed, Two of the Committee, to wit: J. E. Rogers and Richard Cooper, reported, recommending that the judgment of Ripley Lodge be set aside and a new trial *de novo* be had in a neighboring Lodge.

"The minority report was adopted, and not a paper read from the record. The charges, specifications and proof were not read, and the action of the Grand Lodge was based on the statements of the minority of the Committee; and

"WHEREAS, By resolution, the case was sent to Baldwin Lodge, No.

108, for trial, and said Lodge tried the case and acquitted the said S. R. Spight. An appeal was taken by a member of Ripley Lodge to the Grand Lodge and the action of Baldwin Lodge affirmed; and

"WHEREAS, The said Spight has not been restored to the rights, benefits and privileges of Masonry by any Lodge, but a resolution was adopted by the Grand Lodge ordering Ripley Lodge to enroll his name as a member thereof; and

"WHEREAS, The Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, in its report for 1874, declared the status of the said Spight to be that of a suspended member on appeal to Grand Lodge, and which report was adopted by a vote of 751 to 66; now therefore, be it

Resolved,—That the judgment of Ripley Lodge, No. 47, indefinitely suspending S. R. Spight, be and the same is hereby affirmed, in accordance with the majority report of the Committee on Appeals, in 1871."

Number of lodges, 319; represented, 227; making returns, 298; initiations, 710; members, 11,361; receipts \$12,834.40.

The report on correspondence is by Bro. Thos. S. Gathright, and notices Canada for 1874.

M. W. Bro. A. H. Barkley, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. J. L. Power, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI—1876.

Annual Communication (58th) held in Jackson, February 2nd. Delegates present, 284, from 261 lodges.

Bro. A. H. Barkley, G. M., delivered a good address. He decided:—

"6. The collection of dues dates from the time of affiliation.

7. A person who has lost the use of his left leg so that he cannot stand on his foot cannot be made a Mason.

8. That the acceptance of a fee either to prosecute or defend in a Lodge trial, is inimical to the objects and contrary to the nature of the institution of Masonry."

He is glad to be able to report that he granted only one dispensation for a new lodge during the year. The membership has steadily increased, and their condition is one of health and prosperity.

The Finance Committee in their report say:

"Your Committee desire to congratulate the Grand Lodge on the possession of such zealous, faithful and efficient officers as the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary. The present prosperous and satisfactory condition of the finances of the Grand Lodge is due, in a great measure, to the unwearied exertions of those officers in that direction. We have, also, carefully considered the observations of the Grand Secretary in reference to the economy of short sessions in the saving of per diem, and we respectfully recommend that night sessions be held, and every hour be employed in the transaction of business. For that purpose we were sent here, and every hour wasted is a raid on the Treasury of this Grand Lodge."

The *Mystic Circle*, published by the Grand Secretary, was

recommended by Grand Lodge as a Manual and Digest of Masonic Law.

A very handsome jewel was presented to Bro. J. L. Power, Grand Secretary, for his many valuable services.

On the action of the Grand Lodge of Ohio on the "colored" question, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

"WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio considered the report of a committee, at its sessions held in October last, in which it is proposed to recognize the 'so-called Grand Lodge of colored Freemasons of the State of Ohio,' as a 'legitimate and independent Grand Lodge,' on condition that the 'so-called colored Grand Lodge' shall change its constitutional title so that it shall read as follows : 'The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio,' which said report was laid over for action until its next assembly ; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Mississippi, that it respectfully, but earnestly, remonstrates with its sister of Ohio against the adoption of said report, and fraternally calls upon it to desist from a course which, if persisted in, will inevitably sow the seeds of interminable discord within the Masonic institution, and greatly imperil, if not eventually destroy, its very existence.

Resolved, further, That this Grand Lodge asserts the true doctrine of American Grand Lodge jurisdiction to be, that but one lawful Grand Lodge can exist in the same State or Territory, and that it would view the creation, or recognition, of a second Grand Lodge in any State, or Territory, of the United States, as unlawful and void, and, in itself, would operate as a severance of Masonic intercourse with any Grand Lodge for violating this fundamental principle of Masonic law."

On the question of a Masonic Home, it was resolved :—

"That a Special Committee of five be appointed to digest and mature a plan for the organization and maintenance of a Masonic Widows' and Orphan's Home and Industrial School in this Grand Jurisdiction ; said Committee to report to the Grand Master, who shall cause said report to be printed and send the same to the Subordinate Lodges during the recess of the Grand Lodge, that they may instruct their representatives at the next Annual Grand Communication how to vote thereon."

The sum of \$200 was donated to the Protestant Orphan Asylum of Natchez.

The new Grand Lodges of Dakota and Manitoba were recognized.

Number of lodges, 320 ; represented, 261 ; making returns, 299 ; initiations, 465 ; members, 11,205 ; receipts \$11,364.09 ; disbursements, \$10,634.83 ; balance on hand, \$3,182.16.

The report on correspondence is given by Bro. Thos. S. Gathright. He notices our Proceedings for 1875, and desires light on the subject of honorary membership, which we proceed to impart. Our Constitution provides that

"A brother who may have rendered any service to the craft in general, or to any particular lodge, may, by a ballot of the lodge, be elected an honorary member of such lodge."

"Honorary membership does not confer the right of voting in the lodge unless specially conferred by an unanimous ballot at the time of such election."

As a general rule honorary membership is only conferred by us for distinguished services and as a reward of honor well earned.

M. W. Bro. John Y. Murry, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. J. L. Power, Grand Sec'y.

MONTANA—1875.

Annual Communication (11th) held in Radersburg, October 5th. The Grand Master, Bro. Ed. S. Stackpole was not present, owing to the sudden death of his child. His address was read by the Grand Secretary. He reports their condition as follows :—

"We have, indeed, much to be thankful for : while upon others the chastening hand has been laid, and sorrow has sat in the gates, neither war nor pestilence, nor famine nor distress, have thrown their cold shadows across our thresholds. Peace, plenty, and prosperity have been with us to bless and hallow our days and stimulate industries ; the sturdy, steady growth and development of our young mountain empire, unfolding to the magic touch of industry the riches of silver and of gold that are treasured in their rock-ribbed mountains, bring recompense for present toil, and gild the future with still more glorious promise."

We fully agree with his remarks on one ballot for the three degrees :—

"I would suggest that the Grand Lodge By-laws pertaining to Lodges be so changed as to allow the subordinate Lodges to elect to three degrees at one ballot. I think that a candidate, after having been subjected to zealous scrutiny by an investigating committee, has received the degree of E. A., he is entitled to more consideration than a profane, and that, on all the principles of justice, he has a right to know the objections to his advancement, or, at least, that the Lodge should know from whence they come."

The Grand Lodges of Indian Territory, Wyoming, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Dakota were recognized.

A Committee was appointed to devise and report a plan for a Masonic Life Insurance Company. We think they had better leave that sort of thing alone. It is not Masonic work at all.

The Committee on Jurisprudence (in opposition to the Grand Master) think that the better rule and practice is to re-install for every re-election.

The same Committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted :—

“ Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Secretaries of the subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction to record the names of all members and visitors present at each meeting of the Lodge.”

We also copy two other resolutions which were adopted. The latter contains something new, and is hardly, we think, to be commended ; although it will have its advantages in avoiding ill-will in cases where members are not honorable enough to keep secret the fact that such and such Committee-men reported unfavorably.

“ Resolved, That it is the desire of this Grand Lodge, and their earnest request, that the M. W. Grand Master visit all the Lodges in this jurisdiction during the year, and that he inspect their work and records, and do all he can to infuse a greater zeal and raise the standard of Masonic morals and duty.”

“ Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that rejection of a candidate for the degrees of Masonry must in all cases be the action of the Lodge after ballot duly had, and further that the nature of the reports of investigation, whether favorable or unfavorable, should always be oral—neither reduced to writing nor appear on the records of the Lodge, further than the fact that the report was received and the committee discharged.”

After *all* other business was transacted, they fixed the next place of meeting at Helena.

There are 17 Lodges, returning 19 initiated and 656 members.

Bro. Cornelius Hedges has a first-class report on correspondence. In his notice of our Proceedings for 1874, he says :—

“ There is no country in the world where Masonry is flourishing more vigorously than among our Canadian brethren. We cannot but think that the greater conservatism that generally prevails across the line renders it more congenial soil for Masonry. Our people make awkward conservatives, even when they try to be so.”

For his information, we may state that our lodges are not allowed to inflict the penalty of expulsion. It is virtually Masonic death, and is only imposed by Grand Lodge ; as being in the opinion of the framers of our Constitution a most serious matter, and to be dealt with only by the Supreme Power, with due caution and after full and careful consideration. Lodges may suspend, and if the case is in their opinion so flagrant as to merit a severer penalty, they recommend to the Grand Lodge that the offender should be expelled. The case then comes before the Grand Lodge, in the reports of the

Board of General Purposes, who have a sub-Committee on Grievances and Appeals. If a *prima facie* case is made out on the papers, the offender is then summoned to attend Grand Lodge, to show cause why he should not be expelled. We have very few expulsions, and a restoration after expulsion is a very rare occurrence here.

Under the head of "Mississippi," Bro. Hedges says :

"We believe the right of appeal carries the whole case to Grand Lodge, and that when a verdict or decision of a subordinate is reversed or annulled, no part of such a verdict can still remain in force.

Nor can we see how it is incompatible with the nature and object of our institution for brethren to take fees to prosecute or defend a brother on trial for a Masonic offence. While, in most cases, it would be improper, and we believe, in fact, rarely occurs, yet we have known cases where it seemed perfectly proper and right. It would generally prejudice a brother's case to know that he was obliged to resort to hired attorneys. We do not think this a matter calling for a declaration of any exact law, one way or the other."

M. W. Bro. Harry L. Comly, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. Cornelius Hedges, Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA—1875.

Annual communication (18th) held in Lincoln, June 23rd.

Bro. Frank Welch, G. M., reports 7 new lodges. He complains of ignorance among the craft, and suggests the distribution of the laws and regulations in book form, with the warrants, to be paid for when the lodge is instituted. We copy some of his decisions :

"3. An applicant for the degrees in Masonry, if stiff in joint of left knee, cannot be made a Mason.

4. A member of a Lodge is not liable for dues during term of suspension.

6. The floating indebtedness of a Lodge cannot be considered as dues, nor is it a condition precedent to the obtaining of a dimit, that the brother applying therefor should pay his *pro rata* share of the same, unless it be regularly assessed as dues and expressed in the by-laws of the Lodge.

7. 'Can the by-laws of a subordinate Lodge preclude a member in arrear for dues from voting upon petitions for initiation, advancement or affiliation?' No. All present must vote, if members of the Lodge in good standing.

8. A Lodge has no right to confer degrees upon an applicant whose residence is insufficient, notwithstanding the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he formerly resided may grant permission."

The Grand Secretary recommended the reduction of the bulk of the proceedings to save expense. On this a committee report, saying :

"1. That we are of the opinion that the several reports of the Committees on Charters and Dispensations and on Accounts can be materi-

ally reduced in bulk, and the substances thereof stated in better form than if printed *in extenso*; and we therefore recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to condense the same into as brief a space as possible, and preserve the substance thereof; also, that the same power be given him to curtail the reports of other committees and the proceedings, preserving the substance thereof.

2. That we are opposed to condensing or omitting the report on Foreign Correspondence, believing that, in a well-written review of the proceedings of sister jurisdictions, just credit may be reflected upon ourselves. We also are of opinion that such reports tend to promote fraternal feeling and an interchange of fraternal courtesies between officers and members of the various jurisdictions, and that if Nebraska can hereafter secure the services of as efficient, able and faithful committee as labored upon the report of 1874, we shall have no cause to regret any comparison between our own and the reports of other States."

Wyoming was recognized. Hungary and Brazil were not. Indian Territory was deferred for more evidence of the regularity of the proceedings.

There are 58 lodges, returning 227 initiations and 2559 members.

It was resolved :

"That the Lodges in this jurisdiction be recommended to change their By-laws so as to require no fee for affiliation."

Which we think is a move in the right direction.

Thanks were voted to the ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star for their "generous and bounteous banquet."

Bro. J. N. Wise submits an excellent report on correspondence, giving good extracts and commenting freely. In his review of Canada for 1874, he says :

"The proceedings of Canada show an immense amount of business, and are marked throughout by counsels of wisdom, charity and brotherly love."

Under the head of "Montana," he has the following remarks on a ballot for advancement :—

"If the ballot on advancement be upon *proficiency*, as is almost universally held, then the applicant has a masonic right to present himself for examination, and renew his application for advancement, at every succeeding stated communication until he shall prove successful. If, on the other hand, he is perfectly proficient, but there are *other* grounds sufficient to prevent his advancement, then is it manly, *saying nothing about masonic*, to stab him in the dark, or deceive him by an assurance that the rejection is the result of insufficient proficiency, when *he* knows, and *every member of the Lodge* knows, that he has passed a perfect examination in that respect?

The truth is, that a ballot on advancement is not sound in principle or practice. When a profane petitions for the mysteries of Freemasonry, he asks for all there is in Ancient Craft Masonry; and when the Lodge accepts his petition they grant what he asks. As soon as the Lodge has

complied with its part of the agreement—that is, giving him all the light there is in the Entered Apprentice degree—and he has complied with his part, that is, learning what there is in that degree—then it is his right to receive the next degree, and the agreed obligation of the Lodge to confer it upon him, unless it has been discovered in the meantime that he is morally unfit to receive further light, in which event is it not the duty of the Lodge to prefer charges, and give him an opportunity to prove himself worthy? When will Masonry assume an open, candid position upon this question? Or will we content ourselves to suffer these covert attacks to be made on a brother, because, forsooth, he happens not to have attained to the third degree? An Entered Apprentice is a Mason to all intents, as much as a Master Mason, and is entitled to as much and as fair consideration, when his moral qualities are in question.”

We fully agree with Bro. Wise in the above remarks. In this Jurisdiction we have no ballot for advancement; the only question is one of proficiency.

We are sorry and surprised, however, to find that Bro. Wise, who is generally liberal in his ideas, and who is outspoken in condemnation of anything unfair, endorses the pernicious doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates.

Under “Vermont,” he says :

“The following is Article XXIII. of the Grand Lodge By-laws :

ARTICLE XXIII.

No Lodge shall initiate a candidate whose residence is within the jurisdiction of another Lodge, without the consent of such Lodge by vote.

It was sought, through a report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to amend the by-law, so that it should read as follows :—

No Lodge shall entertain a petition from a candidate whose residence is within the jurisdiction of another Lodge, without the consent of such Lodge by vote. *Any Lodge that has legally entertained a petition shall retain jurisdiction over such petitioner for the purpose of conferring degrees.*

We regret to note the fact that the Grand Lodge, by a large vote, rejected the amendment. The Committee on Jurisprudence are sound, and the Grand Lodge is wrong. The words we have italicised, above, embody the *true doctrine* upon that question. A candidate whose petition is *legally* presented to, and *legally* acted upon, by a Lodge, is forever thereafter the exclusive property of such Lodge, whether he has been *elected or rejected*, and that Lodge has an undeniable and exclusive right to use that material in the construction of the temple, whenever, in its judgment, it is found fit for a place therein. It matters not where such a rejected petitioner may afterwards make his residence, the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he may so locate acquires no jurisdiction whatever over him, save through the unanimous consent of the rejecting Lodge, properly certified by its officers.”

We have already characterized this doctrine as absurd, and the position taken as above, to our mind, only needs to be stated to be condemned. That a rejection should follow a man through all the years of his life, and into every place where he may go, seems to us the quintessence of unfairness.

There is neither Masonry nor liberality in such a rule, and we do not understand how it ever became a rule anywhere, or how it can be justified by any of the principles of Masonry.

M. W. Bro. Alfred G. Hastings, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. William R. Bowen, Grand Secretary.

NEW BRUNSWICK—1875.

Annual communication (8th) held at St. John, September 22nd.

M. W. Bro. John V. Ellis, G. M. ; V. W. Bro. William F. Bunting, Grand Secretary.

The address of the Grand Master opens with a reference to the installation of the Prince of Wales as G. M. of England. Then follows mention of the dedication of a Masonic Hall in the City of Rome, and of the Temple in New York. He thinks it unadvisable to enter into fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Hungary so long as the fraternity in that country continues in a divided condition.

He installed the officers of the new Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and recommends the recognition of that body, as well as the new Grand Lodges of Manitoba and Wyoming. He expresses deep sympathy with us in the death of Grand Master Wilson. The attention of the Grand Lodge is directed towards the creation of a Fund of Benevolence.

He decided that a brother could not be an officer of a lodge of which he was not a member, except in the case of a tyler. Also, that a brother balloted for in 1871 could not be initiated in 1875 without a fresh ballot. Also, that a Masonic "Gift Enterprize" should not be encouraged.

They have 30 lodges, with a membership of 2,209. Receipts, \$1,278.30.

The Board of General Purposes reported that the harmony prevailing throughout the Province rendered their work easy and agreeable. They revised the Constitution and made a number of amendments.

A richly-framed portrait of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master was presented to the Grand Lodge, and thanks voted therefor.

The Library Committee reported that they had added a number of works to the library.

From other reports, we copy as follows :

"Your Committee would recommend to Grand Lodge the serious consideration of that portion of the Address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master in reference to Lodges of Instruction. The Committee are decidedly of opinion that authority cannot be given by any private

Lodge to hold a Lodge of Instruction outside of the hall or room in which the regular meetings of the Lodge are held.

With special reference to the death of M. W. Brother William Mercer Wilson, your Committee submit for the consideration of Grand Lodge this resolution: '*Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of New Brunswick offers fraternal sympathy to the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Canada on the lamented death of M. W. Brother William Mercer Wilson, late Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and joins in the deep sorrow felt by the whole fraternity in the Dominion at the loss sustained by the Craft in the demise of an illustrious and distinguished Mason.'

The sum of \$200 was voted as a nucleus of a Fund of Benevolence.

It was also

"*Resolved*, That while, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, a Mason is entitled to all the rights and privileges of the Fraternity, until he be suspended, excluded or expelled, after having undergone a regular trial, there is nothing in the general regulations of the Craft to prevent Lodges, if they desire to do so, enacting a by-law, providing that brethren in arrears of dues on the night of the annual election in their Lodge shall not be eligible to vote at such election or to hold office."

No report on correspondence.

M. W. Bro. Robert T. Clinch, G. M.; V. W. Bro. Wm. F. Bunting, Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1875.

Annual communication held at Concord, May 19th.

M. W. Bro. N. W. Cumner, G. M.; R. W. Bro. John A. Harris, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master reports that the lodges are very prosperous, and peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction. He mentions the death of Horace Chase, P. G. M., who held office in Grand Lodge for 34 years, chiefly as Grand Secretary, and says, "to him are we greatly indebted for our past and present prosperity."

Only two Masonic trials were had during the year, and Bro. Cumner thinks that, "with a membership of nearly 8,000, this number appears very small, and is suggestive of laxity in Masonic discipline or an increase in the practice of morality." Two of his decisions are as follows:

"That it is the duty of a Lodge to grant a dimit, when the applicant has paid all dues and assessments, unless he be under Masonic discipline, or that reasons exist for the same. In the latter case the officers should at once put the Brother upon trial for the offence. A Mason cannot be unmade, nor deprived of his rights and privileges as such, except by expulsion, and then only after due trial for unmasonic conduct.

Two stated communications having been held upon the same evening,

we embrace some of the facts under which the meetings were held that our conclusion may be better understood.

SPECIFICATION.—It appears that the Master arrived at the Lodge Room on or about 7:30 o'clock, the usual hour for opening the Lodge, and stated to some two or three of the Brethren present that if there were no objections he would not open the Lodge until after the close of a meeting then being held at the Town Hall, and not hearing any objections absented himself from the Lodge Room. Soon after the Wardens arrived, and the Master not being present, the Senior Warden opened the Lodge for the transaction of the regular business. After its completion closed the same. At the close of the meeting at the Town Hall, or very soon after, the Master and several of the Brethren went to the Lodge Room and found it closed. The Master, on making application for the keys, was informed that the stated communication of the Lodge had been held by the Senior Warden, and the business thereof transacted. The Master, after consulting with the Brethren, concluded to enter the Lodge Room, open the Lodge, and do the regular business just the same as though no other meeting had been held.

CONCLUSION.—Therefore we conclude that the first meeting held by the Senior Warden must be recorded as the stated communication. The second meeting, held by the Master, cannot be recorded, and hence must be considered informal, and, therefore, null and void."

During the year much work has been done by the custodian in arranging the library, and it is now one of the largest and best.

On one trial,

"The charge was immoral and unmasonic conduct. The specification was 'That the said Samuel Bagley, during the winter and spring of 1874, attempted to defraud a brother of said Lodge, viz.: Edwin P. Stickney, by obtaining his name as bondsman to prevent his going to jail, and then packing his goods and endeavoring to leave the town in the night time, thereby intending to subject him, the said Edwin P. Stickney, to become liable to pay the said bond.'"

The accused was found guilty and suspended. This action was reversed by the Grand Lodge, and justly so, as it did not appear that the complainant was mis-led by any Masonic word, token or pledge.

Dual membership is not allowed in New Hampshire, and a knotty question arose as to the Masonic status of certain brethren who became charter members of a new lodge without having their dimits from the old one. The first proposition laid down by the Committee on Jurisprudence is so self-evident as to be almost an axiom, and we can hardly imagine what arguments could be used against it. They say :

"After much consideration, your committee are fully of the opinion that it is a principle of Masonic law, well established by authority, and clearly supported by reason, that the granting of a charter for a new Lodge, and the constitution of the Lodge under such charter, constitutes the brethren to whom the grant is made, members of such new Lodge."

Their second conclusion is (under their law) equally clear. It is that—

“As, by the effect of the charter and constitution of the new Lodge, the grantees become members of the latter—their membership in their former Lodges becomes *ipso facto* dissolved.”

The report on correspondence is by Bro. Nathan P. Hunt, covering over 100 pages. Our proceedings for 1874 receive kindly mention. On “non-affiliation,” he has the following remarks :

“Non-affiliation still attracts a great deal of attention, and various methods of remedying the evil have been tried. While some jurisdictions have abolished affiliation fees altogether, others have gone to the opposite extreme and deprived this class of the right of Lodge visitation, relief and burial; and, in some cases, made non-affiliation a Masonic offence; but these measures have proved of little avail. We fear they never will. We think this class had better be let alone. If forced into a Lodge against their will, they will not be likely to add to its strength or harmony. While they conduct themselves uprightly and do no act that may bring reproach upon the craft, we see no harm that can come by their remaining non-affiliates. If they fail to contribute to the support of a Lodge, on the other hand they are deprived of its benefits. But a Mason has other duties besides this, which he may be called upon to discharge, be he a member of a Lodge or not.”

We believe in the abolition of fees for affiliation, and would encourage all to join some lodge if possible, but we do not believe in trying to *force* them to do so. On the other hand, if they are wilful non-affiliates, they should not have the same rights of visitation, relief and burial as those who are contributing members.

Seventy-two lodges return 256 initiated, and 7,712 members.

M. W. Bro. William Barrett, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John A. Harris, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY—1876.

Annual Communication (89th) held at Trenton, January 19th.

M. W. Bro. William Pembroke, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Joseph H. Hough, Grand Secretary.

The address of the Grand Master is able and interesting. We copy with approval three of his decisions :

“5. After a candidate has been elected, if objections are made to his initiation, the initiation should be stayed and a Committee of Investigation appointed. After the report of the committee the Lodge may decide the question of initiation by a majority vote. If it be decided in the negative the proposition fee should be returned.

6. Neither an oath nor an affirmation should be required from a Master Mason summoned to testify in a Masonic trial. His testimony should be taken upon his honor and his obligations as a Master Mason.

7. Conviction in a civil court does not set aside the necessity of a Masonic trial."

He has the following excellent remarks on the qualifications of a master :

"In the annual addresses of Grand Masters, as well as the reports of subordinate Grand Officers, much has with propriety been said with reference to the ritual work of our Institution. While this is highly important, inasmuch as it is the duty of those in authority to watch with jealous care the progress of the Lodges in this particular, and promptly to check any disposition to set aside the edicts and resolutions of this Grand Lodge, it should also be borne in mind that the forms and ceremonies which constitute such work are but the outward apparel of Masonry; the means through which the most sublime and essential truths are conveyed, and to this fact too much importance cannot be attached, nor too frequent allusion be made. It should unquestionably be the ambition of the officers and members of every Lodge to be in possession of the standard work; at the same time, the effect which the proper rendering of the work is designed to produce, should by no means be lost sight of. It will therefore be readily conceded that those who are chosen to govern the Lodge should be thoroughly qualified and properly fitted for their responsible positions. Among the many qualifications which are requisite in the Master in order to promote the real prosperity of a Lodge, I would mention the following: *First*, he should be a good man—one whose character is beyond reproach, thereby challenging the admiration and commanding the respect, not only of the brethren over whom he has been called to preside, but also of those with whom he daily associates. He should be possessed of a sufficient amount of intelligence and judgment to enable him not only to acquire, but thoroughly comprehend, our ancient and impressive ritual, and thus be able to impart a true knowledge of its significance and meaning. While appreciating the high honor conferred by his brethren—an honor which is to be prized—he should carefully avoid too much elation, and have constantly in view the service which the office demands. In presiding, let him be firm and decided, yet always courteous. His reproofs should be dictated by friendship, softened by candour, and enforced with mildness and affection; in the whole of his deportment he should combine dignity with affability and ease. Such a course will endear a Worshipful Master to his brethren, promote his usefulness, and leave to his successor a model worthy of imitation. A Lodge with such a Master, and composed of brethren who are constantly engaged in endeavoring to further the grand work of our brotherhood, and who, with untiring zeal and devotion to the true principles of the Fraternity, are earnestly laboring to promote the good of their fellow-men, will not only exert an influence marked in its effects, unlimited in its extent, and of untold value in its results, but will also attain the highest standard of perfection in a work, even better than our ritual—the *standard* of true moral excellence. Surely, brethren, such considerations should prompt us to greater diligence and a more faithful performance of our Masonic duties, and stimulate us to a personal exemplification of the virtues which Masonry enjoins. Thus we shall secure, not only the high esteem of all wise and good men, but that which is of infinitely greater importance—the appro-

bation of that God whom we reverence at our altars, whose favor is better than life."

He reports that

"The subordinate Lodges are, as a rule, steadily improving in the ritual work, and in peace and harmony are zealously laboring to promote the true objects of our time-honored institution."

They have an officer called the Grand Instructor, who is appointed by the Grand Master, and has special charge of the dissemination of the standard work. He has to communicate the work in full to the District Deputy Grand Masters at least three times in each year, and to visit and instruct any Lodge requiring his services. He was called to only five Lodges during the past year. The number would have been larger but for the condition requiring such lodges to pay the expenses of such visits.

The new Grand Lodges of Dakota, Indian Territory, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Wyoming, were recognized by Grand Lodge.

All the decisions of the Grand Master were approved except one which was reversed by the adoption of the following report of the Committee on Jurisprudence :—

"It is with reluctance your committee feel compelled to dissent from the correctness of the 4th decision of the M. W. Grand Master.

They are of the opinion that a Lodge cannot surrender its jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice to another Lodge ; though one Lodge may authorize another to confer the F. C. or M. M. Degree on their behalf, and afterwards grant a dimit to the brother so raised. There are but two ways in which the relations between a Mason and his Lodge can be severed : either by suspension or expulsion, or by dimit ; but a dimit can only be issued to a Master Mason. They therefore recommend that the 4th decision be not approved."

Bro. Marshall B. Smith has a good report on correspondence, in which Canada for 1874 and 1875 is fraternally noticed. We are assured of their deep sympathy with us in our recent losses by death.

They have 145 Lodges, with 12,795 members. Raisings 729.

M. W. Bro. Marshall B. Smith, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Jos. H. Hough, G. Sec'y.

NEW YORK, 1875.

Annual Communication (94th) held in the Grand Lodge Room, Masonic Temple, New York City, June 1st.

M. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, G. M.

R. W. Bro. James M. Austin, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Master in his annual address recounts part of the history and progress of their magnificent Temple, which through many trials and difficulties they have carried forward to completion. Among the honored dead he mentions our late Grand Master and Grand Secretary. We extract one paragraph :

“ On the 20th December, 1874, it was my privilege to preside on an occasion of unusual and peculiar interest. I allude to the reception as a Mason, of the Ruler of the Hawaiian Islands, King Kalakaua, who was vouched for by W. Bro. Edward Gilon, of Concord Lodge No. 50. The reception was participated in by a large assemblage of Grand Lodge officers and other prominent members of our Fraternity; and after a most pleasant interchange of courtesies, during which the King was shown through our beautiful temple, he was escorted to a lodge room where he witnessed the exemplification of the Third Degree of Masonry, by New York Lodge, No. 330, under the direction for that occasion of R. W. Geo. H. Raymond, Grand Lecturer, a special dispensation having been granted for the purpose to W. Bro. John Giffin, Master of the above-named Lodge.

He calls attention to the large amount of labor now entailed upon the Grand Master, and says that the correspondence alone has become a positive burden. We can well understand that this is the case with over 700 lodges to look after. He gives 66 decisions, most of them being of local importance.

The receipts from dues alone as shown by the Grand Secretary's report amount to no less than \$97,975.10. The initiations reported were 4,899, and the total membership is 81,893.

The ceremonies of dedicating the new Temple are given in full in the proceedings. They were exceedingly imposing. Over 23,000 joined in the procession, which occupied three hours in passing. The orator of the day was Bro. John L. Lewis, P. G. M., who delivered a splendid address; and a grand Banquet, in honor of the occasion, closed this remarkable event.

The Grand Lodge Library is now in a good condition, having about 1500 Masonic works properly arranged and classified.

The report of the Committee on Hall and Asylum is as follows :

“ Your Committee regard it as a just cause of congratulation, not only to the members of the Grand Lodge, but to every Craftsman within our jurisdiction, that, through the unswerving fidelity and constant devotion of your representatives, the Board of Trustees, the greater part of the original design has been pressed forward to a successful consummation.

The Hall is, after years of toil and anxiety, at last complete in every part. Nearly every portion of the structure is producing a reasonable and well-assured income, which, the necessary current expenses being

paid, will be faithfully applied to the liquidation of our indebtedness, and from which, at a not distant day, we shall realize the fruition of our earnest hopes, a Haven of Rest for the needy and distressed of our brotherhood."

Reports were also presented by several District Deputies, showing the craft in a prosperous condition, although suffering as to membership from the prevailing depression in business. A very large amount of local business was transacted by Grand Lodge, but nothing of any particular interest here.

The report on correspondence is by Bro. John W. Simons, and is a complete and exhaustive review of a large number of Grand Lodges in North America and in Europe; Canada for 1874 is noticed. In answer to Bro. Brown, of Kansas, who remarks that they have not yet disposed of the "Hamburg Question." Bro. Simons says :

"How can we? The offence continues. The Lodges wrongly implanted on our soil still work, and the mother Lodge so far from giving any indication of a design to withdraw their charters and cease the invasion of our jurisdiction, continues it and gives evidence of a design to extend it whenever an opportunity offers, as witness New Jersey. This may not seem so bad, out in Kansas, but when the evil reaches their household in fact, rather than as something to read of, we apprehend, our brethren out there will feel on the subject as we do, and be quite as tenacious in refusing any compromise of so vital a question."

And on the same subject, after giving the action of the German Grand Lodge League he says :—

"We feel called to say in connection with the foregoing that the proposition of the German Grand Lodge League, though it is unacceptable in its present shape still looks in the right direction, and we trust that out of it may grow a disposition on which a final arrangement may be adjusted.

If the German Grand Lodges agree among themselves to found lodges helter-skelter in German territory, we should be the last ones to find fault; but the enormous extent of our country would make such an arrangement among us, simply impossible, without making confusion worse confounded, and what we cannot do ourselves, we are not willing to let other people do for us. But there seems to be an idea prevalent over there that a German lodge can only exist in this wide world when it owes allegiance to a German Grand Lodge, and we imagine that if our German brethren in Europe could be cured of this fallacy all the rest would follow. Now, under the Grand Lodge of New York, there are some twenty odd lodges composed of German speaking brethren, using German rituals and forms, and conducting their own affairs after their own fashion, save only that they are required to conform to the Constitution and general regulations of the Grand Lodge, which, it affords us very great pleasure to say, they cheerfully do. And we submit the question, whether these lodges can be better governed, or rendered happier or more prosperous by a Grand Lodge three thousand miles away, knowing nothing of the local customs or ideas of the people here, or by the resident authority in whose deliberations they participate, and whose destiny

they help to shape. It seems to us that no fair minded man can hesitate for a moment on this question, and that simply as a question of justice to the lodges themselves, the Grand Lodges in Europe ought to keep their hands off, and we can severally pursue our own roads in peace and harmony. We think we see in this phase of the discussion an indication of peace, the glimmering of the dawn, and we trust wisdom may be given us all, so to act, that we may finally emerge into the full sunlight of Masonic union and harmony throughout the world."

Our readers will doubtless be glad to peruse his notice of Italy :—

"GRAND ORIENT OF ITALY."

"As we see from our exchanges with other foreign Grand Bodies, the Grand Orient of Italy held its annual session May 23 to 26, 1874, at Rome, and adopted at this session a new Constitution, or rather revised the Constitution of 1872. At this annual communication, Bro. Guiseppe Mazzori was elected Grand Master; Bro. Giorgio Tamajo, Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. Luigi Casteliazzo, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master issued under date of June 10, 1874, a circular letter and promulgated the proceedings of the session of May 1874, sending at the same time brotherly greetings to all other Grand Bodies, with wishes for their prosperity.

We quote from the Constitution now in force in the jurisdiction of the Italian Grand Body the following sections:

SEC. 1. Each subordinate lodge is at liberty to work in accordance with any existing rite.

SEC. 3. The base of Freemasonry is the symbolic lodge.

SEC. 6. A Mason of the jurisdiction can only be an active member of one lodge except if chosen as an honorary member of another. As an honorary member he has no right to vote, or to be an officer of the lodge of which he is an honorary member.

SEC. 9 Prescribes that the Session of the Grand Orient shall take place every three years.

On Friday, the 5th of March, 1875, the new Masonic temple at Rome in the Via della Valle was dedicated by Garibaldi as Honorary Grand Master. The inaugural ceremony, to which only the members of the Grand Lodges and representatives of the subordinate lodges were admitted, took place at 1 o'clock p. m. Nearly all the Italian lodges were represented. A regular public procession could not take place, as in Rome they are not permitted save in funeral ceremonies. The Brethren were dressed in black, and wore the insignia of their grade and offices. A kind of procession was anyhow formed in the hall of the Passi Perduti, and crossed the hall of the Council and the offices, until it reached the new temple. In the evening a social meeting, to which were admitted the wives, sisters and mothers of the members of the Fraternity, was held, and all the opera singers had offered their gratuitous services for the occasion. Reports in the newspapers said that such a Masonic demonstration had never been witnessed at Rome.

It is further communicated that the first lodge opened at Rome took the name of the 'Roma Costituente.' This lodge was dissolved, and the 'Universo' and 'Tito Vezia' replaced it. A third, to be opened a few days after the solemn inauguration of the new Masonic temple, takes the name of 'Uguaglianza.' Rome numbers about 1,000 members of the Fraternity, many of them Deputies and Senators.

The Grand Orient of Italy is said to have now 186 subordinate lodges, with about 9,300 members.

G. M. and G. Sec'y re-elected.

NEW YORK—1876.

Annual Communication (95th) held in New York City, June 6th.

In opening the Grand Lodge the Grand Master remarked that

“ At the meeting of January 23d, 1781, five Lodges were represented by twenty-nine Masters and past Masters! At *this* meeting over seven hundred Lodges are represented by the goodly array of brethren here present—with a constituency much more numerous than any Grand Lodge on this Continent.”

After the opening M. W. Bro. Thorne delivered his annual address. Among his official acts we find the following :—

“ May 15—At noon, unveiled the statue of “ Silence ” in the presence of several Grand Officers and members of the Craft. This statue was executed in Rome by order of R. W. Bro. Levi H. Willard, Past Grand Junior Warden of the G. L. of New York., and on this date was formally presented by the donor to the “ Board of Trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund.” It stands in the niche designed for it in this Temple, a monument to the fidelity and liberality of our distinguished R. W. Brother, and a constant reminder of one of our great Masonic virtues,”

On foreign relations he gives the present state of the Hamburg question, and notices the “ Colored ” question in Ohio and Germany.

“ Our foreign relations remain about in the same condition as last year. The Grand Orient of France has made no sign during the year, and evidently considers the friendship and correspondence of the American Grand Lodges as a matter of no consequence. This is to be regretted; but, until there is a willingness on the part of that body to recognize the right of this and other Grand Lodges to exclusive jurisdiction within their own territories there can be no change, and we shall regretfully, but none the less firmly, be obliged to treat as strangers those whom we would gladly welcome to our Masonic homes.

The course of the German Grand Lodges is scarcely, if at all, more satisfactory. Claiming for themselves the very right for which we contend, and proclaiming that no Lodge can be formed on German territory without their consent, they have thus far shown no willingness to concede the same right to us, or to withdraw the Lodges located in this and other States. They propose to compromise the matter by a series of treaties, looking, however, only to their own benefit, since they propose to have us recognize the establishment in this country of Subordinate Lodges owing them allegiance, but saying nothing of a reciprocal privilege on our part, even were it possible that we could profit by such a concession, or our policy allow us to proceed in that direction.

One further step has been taken by them through their Grand Lodge

League, which is the declaration that the organizations of colored persons in this country, now trespassing on various of the American Grand Lodge jurisdictions are regular, and hence that their invasion of the territory of this and other Grand Lodges in the United States, meets the approval of our brethren in Germany, although at latest advices, they had not gone so far as to offer direct recognition and interchange of representatives. This, however, is but a matter of time, and it is far from certain that the League now in session will not take this concluding step, and thus by indiscretion place its constituents in open denial of our right to govern our own affairs without foreign intervention and dictation. There can be but one ending to all this, which I refrain from indicating at the present time, in the hope that wiser counsels may yet prevail, and that harmony and peace may be secured to our brotherhood wherever dispersed.

Another question has been presented, not for immediate action, but for calm consideration, by the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

At the Annual Communication of that body last October, a special committee reported favorably on a proposition to admit a number of confessedly clandestine organizations, and to divide the jurisdiction of the State with such irregular bodies. The point of the whole matter is, that this is simply a proposition on the part of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, to abandon the American law of sole jurisdiction, claimed by Grand Lodges on this continent, and, if adopted, to open the whole of our territory to the incursions of such organizations as may choose to invade it, and thus by destroying our authority at the same time put an end to the peaceful and harmonious progress we have so long enjoyed.

No action appears to be required at this time, because the Grand Lodge of Ohio has not definitely passed upon the report of its committee, and, it is to be hoped that when it does, it will remain in full accord with the other American Grand Lodges, and with the best interests of Masonry on this continent.

Meanwhile, I repeat, it should receive your careful attention, so that, if action should be taken in Ohio, adverse to the general well-being, your duty may be plain and your action prompt.

For particulars of this and other matters of great interest to you as well as for all that relates to the welfare and prosperity of the Grand Lodges on this continent, I respectfully refer you to the very interesting report of our able Committee on Foreign Correspondence; it will well repay the time expended in its perusal."

The Grand Secretary reports 715 lodges; 663 represented; 4,190 initiated, and 83,594 members; receipts, \$100,849.25, —truly a remarkable showing. With such an enormous income, one would think that their funds would rapidly accumulate, but we find that their expenses are almost equally as large, leaving only about \$1100 of a balance to go to the Hall and Asylum Fund.

The Trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund present a full detailed exhibit of the financial affairs of the fund since its commencement. It appears that they have unfortunately been subjected to some abuse in the discharge of their onerous duties, but their statement appears to be correct, and is certified to by competent auditors. Their total disbursements

have been \$1,590,262.96. The debt on the building is given at \$794,015.00. The revenue from the Hall per annum is \$51,769.00, and is expected to be increased this year by \$5,500.00. There are 95 Masonic bodies paying rents amounting to \$34,700.00.

It was decided that the craft should participate in the ceremony of unveiling a statue of Lafayette, which was presented by the people of France, and to be erected in Central Park.

The following resolutions were adopted :

"Resolved, That the sale of spirituous or malt liquor be and the same is hereby prohibited in any portion of the building known as the Masonic Hall, in the City of New York, and that the Trustees of the Hall and Asylum are made responsible for the carrying out of this resolution."

"Resolved, That no appropriation shall be made from the funds of this Grand Lodge for Masonic Boards of Relief, and that so much of the report of the Finance Committee as recommends such appropriations is hereby declared inexpedient."

"Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to M. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, in appreciation of his long and devoted services in the various stations held by him in this Grand Body, and for his arduous labors in the cause of the Hall and Asylum Fund, and more especially as Grand Master of Masons for the past two years."

Resolved, That, as an evidence of our appreciation, a Committee be appointed to prepare and present to M. W. Ellwood E. Thorne a suitable testimonial of our friendship for him as a man and a Mason."

It was decided to be inexpedient to make any reduction in Grand Lodge fees and dues unless there should be some amendment to the Constitution, reducing the pay of representatives, or a considerable reduction in their present expenses.

The report on correspondence is again by that veteran Masonic writer, Bro. John W. Simons, whose name is a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of the report. It covers 116 pages, and notices Canada for 1875.

From "Ohio," we copy the views of New York on the action of that State with regard to colored Masons :

"At the quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, held December 6, 1786, it was voted, That no Lodge can exist in this State but under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge."

While this is, beyond doubt, the earliest assertion of the principle of Grand Lodge jurisdiction for which the American Grand Lodges are now contending, though it was again asserted in 1829, and at various times since, it also antedates the formation of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg and that of the so-called Grand Lodges of colored persons. The position thus taken by our Grand Lodge has never been relinquished, and, we feel justified in saying, never will be. True, there have been times when through dissensions in the Craft two governing bodies have temporarily existed at the same time in this State, yet the wide-spread and enduring conviction of the brethren that but one Grand Lodge ought to exist in the same jurisdiction has always been the basis of adjustment,

and thus the continuous existence of the Grand Lodge has been a continual assertion of the principle of exclusive jurisdiction.

Admitting, as we freely do, that African Lodge, No. 459, of Boston, was duly constituted by a warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, which, though granted in 1784, only became operative by reaching those for whom it was intended in 1787; waiving any discussion of its subsequent demise, its assertion in 1827 of absolute independence of all authority and its imitation of what, it must be admitted, had been done before in Europe, namely, erecting itself into a mother Lodge and granting warrants to parties in other States in which regular established Grand Lodges were already in existence and occupancy, we assert that its invasion of the State of New York in 1828, which State had been lawfully occupied by a regular Grand Lodge since 1781, was precisely the same act in nature as that since perpetrated by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and that in both cases the invaders are clandestine and without a shadow of claim or color of right in their proceedings.

Precisely the same state of facts exists in Ohio, and when its committee made its report recommending that Grand Lodge to annul its previous history, to cancel its claim to its well established right of jurisdiction, and to recognize as regular, Clandestine Masons, and then divide its jurisdiction with them, it in terms proposed to overthrow the whole labors of a century, and to open our territory to every set of adventurers who, proclaiming themselves to be a Grand Lodge, should choose to occupy our ground and dispute our authority.

The object of the promoters of this precious scheme seems to us to ignore all the laws and usages of Masonry, to break down the only possible safeguard for our continued existence, and to substitute chaos and confusion for the symmetry and order we have hitherto known. And this, too, not because their proteges are better men and better Masons than we are, not because they can do anything for the Fraternity or its advancement we cannot do, but simply because they are colored men, as if that had anything possible to do with the question. Masonry has no color line; makes no distinction of rank, caste, nationality, religion, politics, or color; its doors are open to every respectable man possessing the needed qualifications, and who can successfully pass the scrutiny of the ballot, and, that failing him, we know of no legal way by which he can be 'resolved' into the Fraternity.

The inference from the report under consideration is, further, that if the persons whom the Grand Master of Ohio and his committee hold up to us for sympathy, even to the violation of laws made to secure our own existence, were white or green they would have no chance in Ohio more than elsewhere; the argument really being, that because they are of African descent we must overlook their total irregularity, their unwarranted invasion of the several State jurisdictions where their so-called Grand Lodges exist, and give up every principle for which we have contended.

We cannot consent, because we should by that act legalize the buccaneering of Hamburg and France, and practically relinquish our right to govern our own families in our own homes. Having at one swallow taken in our share of these twelve thousand Clandestines, we should in all fairness be forever estopped from complaining of an occasional invasion from abroad, and so in a few years our respective territories would have as many conflicting jurisdictions in each as there might be found outside parties willing to grant a semblance of authority to applicants.

Masonry in the State of New York, so far as its superintendence and government is concerned, belongs to us, having descended in direct and

unbroken line from our fathers, and we deny the claim of any body of men proposing to share our heritage with us. We shall deny in the future, as we have in the past, the validity of any warrant located in the State of New York, not granted to seven or more regular Masons by our own Grand Lodge; and what we claim for ourselves we shall maintain to the extent of our power for all of our peers.

We cannot, therefore, give our assent to the Ohio proposition, and trust that that jurisdiction will continue in the ranks of the legitimate upholders of American Masonry by refusing to mistake sentiment for law, and by avoiding entangling alliances with clandestine and unauthorized associations calling themselves Masons."

And on the same subject we make the following extracts from Bro. Simon's review of the Grand Lodge League of Germany:

"A lively discussion arose on the question of recognition of the 'Colored Grand Lodge Prince Hall' in Massachusetts, and of one in Ohio, in which the Bros. Herrig, Glitza, Von Dalen, Eckstein (Saxony), Kleiber, Von Etzel, Barthelmess, Brabaud, Eckstein (Darmstadt), Amelung, and Paul took part. In the discussion, the question in regard to the regulation of the *undecided* (?) 'right of jurisdiction' of the North American Grand Lodges was brought forth and discussed, and the remark made, that it was only the question of color which would be taken in consideration. Opposition to recognition was made conspicuous by calling attention to the signatures to the communications and propositions of the Colored Grand Lodges as having evidently originated from uneducated hands, a sense which was not accepted by the Diet after an inspection of the same. Finally, the mediating proposition of Bro. Brabaud was unanimously adopted: *Resolved*, The Grand Lodge Diet declares, in regard to the propositions of the Grand Lodges Prince Hall and Ohio, that it considers both Grand Lodges as legally constituted, and that the German Lodges will open their doors to the members of these Grand Lodges and their subordinates without hesitation, and with pleasure."

"Under the circumstances, and as all direct and official communications were missing, the Grand Master, Bro. Ellwood E. Thorne, considered it his duty to take steps in order to get a definite declaration and explanation. He addressed the following letter to the presiding Grand Master and executive officer, Bro. A. Pfaltz, and ordered, to avoid all misapprehensions and misunderstandings, the same to be written and directed in the German language. The letter reads as follows:

"NEW YORK, November 20, 1875.

"*To the Most Worshipful Bro. Adolph Pfaltz, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge 'Zur Eintracht,' President of the German Grand Lodge League:*

"*M. W. Sir and Brother*—As the representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, it appears to me my duty to ask of you some explanation of the proceedings of the German Grand Lodge League held at Darmstadt, and over which you presided. You doubtless fully understand the difficulties which have so long existed between the Grand Lodge of Hamburg and the various American Grand Lodges, which latter complain that their right to govern and direct Symbolic Masonry within their respective territories has been, and still is, infringed by the

existence here of Lodges chartered by, and owing allegiance to, the said Grand Lodge of Hamburg.

"Having exhausted the resources of argument and fraternal persuasion, so far as that body is concerned, we turned in hope to the Grand Lodge League for the recognition of the principle at stake as absolutely essential to peaceful relations between the American Grand Lodges and those on the Continent of Europe. This question of jurisdiction absorbs and overrules all others, because unless it is enforced, there can be no peace among the forty-eight Grand Lodges on this continent, nor any good Masonic government in this country. That we do live in peace, one with the other, is because we most carefully respect the right of one another; and all we have ever asked is, that the same favor should be accorded to us by our brethren abroad as we practice toward them, and toward each other. Out of our system of exclusive jurisdiction grows the law that there can be but one Grand Lodge in any of the States of the Union, and, therefore, whenever a Grand Lodge has been lawfully established, all the rest respect its jurisdiction as each expects its own jurisdiction to be respected. The moment this law is set aside our peace is threatened, and we cannot, therefore, admit the slightest compromise on the subject.

"I expect, Most Worshipful Brother, that you doubtless understand all this; but I have permitted myself to state it, because I hope, through you, to address the various Grand Lodges composing the League, and, in the interest of the American Grand Lodges, to have an explicit understanding of the position our German brethren propose to occupy.

"Knowing, as you necessarily do, the German sentiment on this subject, will you kindly inform me:

"How are we to understand the resolution in relation to the right of jurisdiction, adopted by the Grand Lodge Union, May 24, 1874? Are we to take it in the sense given it by our representative, Bro. Von Mensch, in protocol No. 111, August 28, 1875, of the Grand Lodge of Saxony? If so, then we are to understand that while the German Grand Lodges interdict the formation of daughter Lodges in Germany by foreign Masonic powers, nothing is said of the establishment in this State of daughter Lodges by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, but that only *in future* will the League endeavor to secure the adoption of a treaty to give sanction to such proceedings.

"Permit me to remark, in passing, that an idea seems to prevail in your country that a German daughter Lodge must of necessity be under the government of a German Grand Lodge, and to place beside it the fact that in the State of New York there are about thirty daughter Lodges owing allegiance to its lawful Grand Lodge, the work of which is conducted in the German language, according to German forms and rituals, and they move in perfect harmony with the rest of us. We should be glad to know in what manner the fact of owing allegiance to a Grand Lodge over three thousand miles away, the sittings of which they could not attend, and in the deliberations of which they could take no part, would improve their condition, or make them happier or more prosperous.

"Again: We find that by the protocols of May 16, 1875, a resolution was unanimously adopted at Darmstadt with reference to the so-called Grand Lodges of colored persons in Massachusetts and Ohio. Does the resolution mean what it says and no more, or is it intended to convey the idea that, while the Grand Lodge of colored persons are declared to be lawfully constituted, yet the German Grand Lodge League does not formally recognize them?

"Or again, if it does mean a formed recognition and a desire to enter into correspondence with them. does it also mean that the regular and long-established Grand Lodges in the United States are of no consequence, and that the Grand Lodges composing the German League, do not require any further alliance with them ?

"You will, I am sure, my dear brother, pardon this intrusion on your time, when you reflect how grave are these questions to us, and how important it is that in passing upon them in our assemblies, we should know precisely the views of our brethren in Germany. Believe me, etc.,

"(Signed) ELLWOOD E. THORNE, *Grand Master.*

"(Attest) JAMES M. AUSTIN, *Grand Secretary.*"

On the 29th of February, 1876, the following answer was received :

"The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge 'Zur Eintracht,' at Darmstadt, presiding and executive officer of the German Grand Lodge League for the current year, to the M. W. Bro. Ellwood E. Thorne, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

"*Most Worshipful Brother*—In your esteemed letter, dated New York, November 20, 1875, you expressed the wish to know and ascertain from me what position the German Grand Lodges intend and propose to occupy, in reference to the principles set forth by you, viz. :

"That by the American Grand Lodges the right of an exclusive jurisdiction is claimed.

"That at the moment this law is set aside your peace is threatened, and

"That you cannot, therefore, admit the slightest compromise on the subject.

"*Most Worshipful and Beloved Brother* ! I am not in the situation to discuss or answer these questions in behalf or in the name of the German Grand Lodge League ; I can only express my individual opinion. It seems to me that the representatives of the German Grand Lodges at the Diet, held at Berlin in May, 1874, have determined on principles and have adopted resolutions which give plain advice and direction to German Masonry, in relation to the rights of jurisdiction. [See New York Grand Lodge Translations of 1875, page 130, sec. 9.]

"Furthermore, these resolutions express the willingness of the German Grand Bodies to negotiate and make treaties with foreign Grand Bodies, in relation to the foundation and the chartering of foreign Lodges in Germany. But in no wise can and shall they be interpreted in the sense given it erroneously by Bro. Von Mensch, your representative near the Grand Lodge of Saxony.

"I have no doubt the German Grand Lodge League will always be ready to mediate such treaties, especially they would be glad to see the difficulties between your Grand Lodges and the Grand Lodge of Hamburg settled in a brotherly way.

"The resolutions adopted on the 14th of May, 1875, at Darmstadt, by the Grand Lodge League can, according to my impression and judgment, mean nothing else but the modified recognition of the Grand Lodge of Colored Masons at Boston and in Ohio. My personal view is that this resolution has no other sense and, most decidedly, does not mean that the long-established Grand Lodges in the United States are of no consequence, and that the Grand Lodges, composing the German Grand Lodge League, do not desire any further alliance with them.

"The resolution in question seems to me only to be a logical consequence of the principle adopted as law by the German Grand Lodges : that more than one Grand Lodge can exist in a State, as we have, for

instance, in Prussia *four* Grand Lodges (three existing in Berlin, one in Frankfort-on-the-Maine), with equal rights and in a brotherly harmony.

"As, however, the resolution adopted in relation to the foundation of the two mentioned Grand Lodges of Colored Masons can only be discussed and interpreted as far as the same can be practically executed, I shall not fail to bring your brotherly letter of November, 1875, to the knowledge of the German Grand Lodges, and cause the next meeting of the Grand Lodge Diet in June, 1876, to adopt resolutions relative to the points mentioned and alluded to by you.

"Please accept the expression of my brotherly devotion and esteem, and the Masonic greeting of yours fraternally,

"(Signed) PFALTZ, *Grand Master*.

"Darmstadt, February 5, 1876. GESSNER, *Grand Secretary*."

We have to remark that Bro. A. Pfaltz's statement and representation, in regard to the jurisdictional rights of the German Grand Lodges, are not very clear; inasmuch as there is no doubt that in the Grand Duchy of Hesse Darmstadt, comprising the jurisdiction of his Grand Lodge, no other Lodge would be tolerated. The fact that after creating and founding the Darmstadt Grand Lodge 'Zur Eintracht,' in 1844 or 1845, several Lodges in the Grand Duchy, for instance, at Giessen, at Offenback (Bro. Pfaltz's Lodge, he was then W. Master,) at Worms Alzey, etc., were compelled by a kind of a Cabinet Order to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the Grand Mother Lodge of the Electric Union at Frankfort, and to join the newly erected Grand Lodge jurisdiction for the Grand Duchy of Hesse Darmstadt, cannot be overlooked or denied.

We must, therefore, look for a definitive answer and distinct resolutions to the next meeting of the German Grand Lodge Diet, which will take place this year in June at Whitsuntide."

M. W. Bro. James W. Husted, G. M.; R. W. Bro. James M. Austin, G. Sec'y.

NORTH CAROLINA—1875.

Annual Communication, held at Raleigh, December 6th.

M. W. George W. Blount, G. M.; R. W. Donald W. Bain, G. S.

From the address of the Grand Master we learn of the death of their Grand Tyler, Bro. Joseph H. Separk, who was at the time of his death, Mayor of the City of Raleigh.

He recommends that the office of Grand Lecturer should be revived, in order to secure uniformity of work, and says :—

"Our Lodges are becoming too much enlightened to be satisfied with parrot teaching, and will not brook instruction from persons who cannot do more than give the mere verbiage of the ceremony. If we cannot have instruction of the right kind, if our intelligent young men, who are daily coming into our ranks, cannot be made to see something more in our rites than mere ceremony, if they are not so instructed as that the beautiful and holy principles of Masonry will be unfolded and made to shine through every symbol, the whole becomes to him unmeaning jargon, and he votes the Lodge-room a bore and Masonry a cheat. That follows complaints of luke-warmness in all the activities which engage the Masonic heart and

hand, in attention to the plainest requirements of duty—then defection and Masonic crime.”

And he favors the call of the Grand Master of Florida, for a Convention of Grand Masters, looking to the adoption of uniformity.

He issued Dispensations for nine new Lodges ; calls attention to the necessity of maintaining the Orphan Asylums, and hopes Grand Lodge will aid the completion of the Washington Monument.

The Grand Secretary thus reports on the new Masonic Code :—

“This work has been printed and published under the authority given by the Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication. Much care was taken to make it entirely reliable. It was examined by the committee appointed by the Grand Lodge to revise it, and received their endorsement before publication. It being designed for a hand-book as well as a Code of Jurisprudence, the various public ceremonies and blank forms used by Lodges, and other important matter, are comprised in it.”

Bro. J. H. Mills, Superintendent of the Orphan Asylums, evidently has his heart in the good work. His report shows that these institutions are nobly performing the ends for which they are designed, and we have no doubt their success is owing almost entirely to his energy and perseverance in the face of many difficulties and discouragements. The contributions to these two Asylums were during the year about \$13,600.00. The number of Orphans admitted was 167. The continuance of the Asylum at Mars' Hill, in the Western part of the State, is recommended for three reasons, namely :—

1. It has surpassed the most sanguine expectations in restoring to immediate and vigorous health, the feeble and chill-shaken orphans from the swamps and pocosons of the East.

2. The people of the mountains do not yet appreciate the claims of the orphans, nor their obligations to relieve the suffering poor. Their duty ought to be placed before their eyes, sounded in their ears, and impressed upon their hearts, till willing feet shall go on errands of mercy and helping hands shall reach down and take hold of those now feeling for sympathy and support.

3. Many orphans in the West are still enduring the most abject slavery. They are held in bondage by those who seem to think that when fathers and mothers are dead, the children left have no rights which the living ought to respect. The voice of humanity pleads for these orphans, and the ever-listening ear of the just and upright Mason will not let it plead in vain.”

Lodges represented, 166 ; making returns, 215 ; making no returns, 25. Present number of Lodges, 240. Initiations, 471. Present number of members, 9,685.

A memorial by a lodge was presented, asking the Grand

Lodge to declare that the reversal of a sentence of indefinite suspension does not restore to membership. An argument was also presented in denunciation of the course of the Grand Master in deciding that the effect of such action by Grand Lodge is to restore to full membership. The Committee on grievances, (whose report was adopted) say :—

“ Your Committee are fully satisfied that the memorialists do not understand the *Fundamental Law of Masonry*, and that the citations made from ‘ Anderson’s English Constitutions ’ and ‘ Mitchell’s Digest,’ are not pertinent to the question at issue. It is to be feared that there is some ill-feeling in the matter, which ought to be removed. It is therefore, recommended that the prayer of the memorialists be not granted.”

This is in accord with the ruling of our Grand Lodge in 1870, although contrary to the opinion of our Grand Master Wilson in 1874. Our private opinion is that a distinction should be made between the effect of a restoration “ on the merits ” and a restoration on the ground of mercy (i. e. that the brother has been sufficiently punished.) In the former case the restoration should undoubtedly be to all former privileges, including membership. In the latter it should not.

No report on correspondence.

Grand Officers re-elected.

NOVA SCOTIA—1875.

In this volume we have the proceedings at four Emergent Communications, held chiefly for the purpose of considering the best means to adopt towards the erection of a new Masonic Temple, and discussing the various propositions made to attain that desirable object. It was finally decided to adopt a proposal submitted by the Grand Master, which was in effect to sell their old Hall and erect a new one.

Annual Communication (10th) held at Halifax, June 2nd, 1875.

R. W. Bro. Allen H. Crowe, D. G. M., presiding.

R. W. Bro. Benjamin Curren, G. Sec’y.

The Grand Master, M. W. Bro. J. W. Lawrie, was absent at New York, attending the dedication of the new Masonic Temple there. His address was read, in which he mentions as to the new Hall, that

“ Grand Lodge, however, at its last emergent meeting, placed the matter in the hands of a strong committee, with very full powers, and the result of their labors, so far, may now be seen in the columns of the daily press in the shape of an advertisement for the receipt of tenders for the erection of a Hall on a scale commensurate with our requirements, and not incommensurate with our resources, and I have full confidence that the present year of light will be memorable in the annals of Masonry in Nova Scotia,

as the year when the foundation stone of our new Hall was duly and truly laid."

He reports having issued five Dispensations for new Lodges, gives several decisions, and says :

"I have adhered to the decisions of my predecessors, and have declined to shorten the period between first and second degrees.

I have refused permission to a Lodge to initiate a candidate unable to read and write.

I have refused permission to initiate a candidate having a cork leg.

I have declined to issue a dispensation to a Lodge to install its officers in public."

In all of which we think he did quite right.

From the report of the Grand Secretary we learn there are 63 lodges, all making returns except 2. Initiations, 480 ; members, 3,295.

The Committee on the Address compliment the Grand Master thusly :

"Your Committee do not deem it at all extravagant to assert that the Grand Master's epitome of Masonic operations is one of the best yearly statements ever submitted to the Grand Lodge. It is the evidence of a mind alive to the importance and interests of the Craft, and we shall hope that this interest may never abate, and that for many years to come we may be favored with a similar record."

A resolution of sympathy with the Grand Lodge of Canada was adopted, on the death of our late Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

A letter was read from the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica, enclosing a photograph of a certificate issued by a private lodge in Nova Scotia, and asking if this is according to their regulations, whereupon it was

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to call the attention of the W. Master of the Union Lodge No. 19, to the violation, by said Lodge, of the constitution, in granting travelling certificates to its members, one of which has been presented to a Lodge in Jamaica, and to caution the Lodge against a repetition of the act, in the future."

The work was exemplified in the first and third degrees by the Grand Lecturer, Bro. F. W. Dakin, and several brethren of St. Mark's Lodge.

Bro. Smithers having removed from the jurisdiction, the report on correspondence is by Bro. A. H. Crowe. It is a well-prepared paper of over 100 pages, and notices Canada for 1874.

OHIO—1875.

Annual Communication (66th) held at Columbus, October 19th.

M. W. Bro. Asa H. Battin, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John D. Caldwell, G. Sec'y.

In his address, the Grand Master calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to the prerogative of the Grand Master to make Masons at sight. He thinks there is no sound reason for its continuance, and urges upon the Grand Lodge the propriety and necessity of its repeal. We copy part of his remarks on this subject :

"I have, upon three occasions during the year, been urgently solicited to so far take from subordinate lodges a part of their duty as to make Masons at sight, I have promptly declined in each case ; because,—

1. I believe the degrees should not be conferred, except in, and by, a legal lodge.

2. I do not understand the *modus operandi* of making Masons at sight ; whether the Grand Master should place the candidate upon a rock, and say unto him, in solemn tones, 'Thou art a Mason,' or whether he should summon a sufficient number of brethren, and confer upon him the three degrees after the manner of a lodge. The former would be easily performed ; but what amount of light would the newly-made brother have received ? Should the latter be adopted, I do not believe that any sensible Mason in the State would be willing to render assistance.

3. I believe that every Mason should be a member of some subordinate lodge. I have no faith in unaffiliated Masons. To make a Mason at sight, and turn him loose to roam wildly over the Masonic world, a member of no lodge, is not according to my ideas of propriety."

At the previous meeting a rule was adopted that "it is unmasonic for any lodge of Masons to attend the funeral of a brother where the same is not under the control of, and conducted by, a lodge of Master Masons." This rule, which appears to us quite just and reasonable (although the word "unmasonic" is, perhaps, rather too strong), caused great offence to some of the so-called higher Masonic bodies. A lodge invited a Commandery to join with it in a pic-nic excursion to celebrate St. John's Day. The Grand Commander of Knights Templar, on being applied to by the Commandery for permission to join in the pic-nic, refused to give it, saying :

"So long as the above offensive, unfraternal, discourteous and unmasonic rule remains unrepealed on the statute-book of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, I think it would be undignified in the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and she would be wanting in self-respect, should she continue to recognize the Masonic courtesies and amenities which have heretofore existed, almost from time immemorial, between the lodges and commanderies in this State and throughout the world.

"If it is unmasonic for a lodge to participate with a Commandery in the solemn ceremony of depositing the evergreen in the grave of a deceased brother, can it be Masonic to meet together on festive occasions as Lodges and Commanderies ! I think not. Let us be consistent. I therefore feel it my duty, as Grand Commander, however unpleasant it may be to my own personal feelings, to decline to grant the permission asked for, and to

lay my interdict upon your appearing upon the occasion named."

The Grand Master submits this matter to the Grand Lodge for careful consideration. Our own opinion is that the Lodge burial service should be the *only Masonic* burial service, and that the rule above quoted is just, and quite undeserving of being called either "unfraternal" or "discourteous."

The Grand Master reports having presided at several trials in private lodges, which we think he should not have done. He believes that his action in this matter has prevented appeals being taken, which is just our reason for condemning his action.

He concludes an excellent address by congratulating the Grand Lodge on the flourishing condition of the Order, and the prevalence of peace and harmony among the lodges.

On Masonic burials, the Grand Lodge made a concession in favor of the Knights Templar. The rule above mentioned was rescinded, and the following rule adopted in lieu thereof. We regret this, but it is "none of our funeral," and so we suppose we have no right to complain :

"1. That no lodge under this jurisdiction shall participate in the funeral of a brother unless the same be under the exclusive control of a lodge of Master Masons, or one of the Masonic organizations which recognize the degrees of E. A., F. C., and M. M., and make the possession of said degrees a pre-requisite to admission into such organizations, and that, when more than one Masonic organization attends the funeral of a deceased brother, but one funeral service shall be performed, but that in case the funeral be under the control of the Knights Templar, and their funeral service be performed, nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the Master Masons present from depositing in the grave the emblem of immortality, and explaining its significance according to our ritual."

We approve of the following :

"That, on the trial of a brother on charges of unmasonic conduct, the production of the record of his conviction in a court of criminal jurisdiction of a violation of the civil law involving a Masonic offence is *prima facie* evidence of his guilt, which, unexplained, is sufficient to warrant conviction, but, like other mere *prima facie* evidence, may be explained by any competent testimony."

The new Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Dakota were recognized.

The sum of \$1,000 was appropriated to the Washington monument.

A proposition to increase the annual dues from 25 cents to 50 cents *per capita* was voted down. Another to reduce the mileage of members from \$1.50 to \$1.25 for each 25 miles travelled was carried.

The following good, sound, sensible resolution was adopted :

“Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that, in the present era of progress, every Mason should be a subscriber to one or more Masonic periodicals, in order that they may be posted as to the great progress that is now going on in the development of the true history, science and symbolism of the institution.”

The “colored question” appears in the appendix, and occupies some 58 pages, under the progressive heading of “New Day—New Duty,” opening with a quotation from Bancroft, which states very correctly that “all men are brothers”—a proposition that we are prepared to argue either for or against at any time on twenty-four hours’ notice.

Then follows a memorial from a German Lodge in Ohio, asking the Grand Lodge to investigate the legitimacy of the colored Masons. Then the address of Grand Master Battin, which closes as follows :

“Brethren, this question must be met. We may, for the present, pass by on the other side, we may look upon it, fold our mantles around us, and pass on ; but the Good Samaritan is coming, has come, and is pouring the oil of fellowship into the wounds, binding up the bruises and taking the sufferers to his own house. Why should we longer delay ? I am vain enough to believe that we are capable of meeting it fairly. I have faith in our people. I have faith in their sense of justice and magnanimity. I cannot believe that many years can elapse before the great body of colored Masons will be recognized as a part of the great Masonic family, and accorded their rights as such. I have candidly expressed my opinion, and I leave the matter to you for your consideration, earnestly hoping that you may have wisdom to devise some means by which the Masons of Ohio may be united into one family and brotherly love prevail. If within the great centennial year this result can be accomplished, or measures taken looking to such result, we shall have reason to rejoice that the march of progress is onward and upward, and the universal brotherhood of man, on the Western Continent, fully, fairly and unchangeably established, and the world made better by our example.

Then the report of the Special Committee, which we copy in full :

“Your Committee to whom was referred so much of the annual address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and accompanying documents, as relates to the so-called Colored Lodges, and more especially the Colored Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio, have given the subject careful consideration, and respectfully submit the following :

We do not propose, nor do we deem it necessary at this time, to enter into the history of the origin of so-called Colored Freemasonry in this country. That subject has been fully discussed in nearly all the Grand Lodges and Masonic periodicals of this country for more than twenty-five years past.

Your Committee deem it sufficient to say that *they* are satisfied *beyond all question* that Colored Freemasonry had a legitimate beginning in this

country, as much so as any other Freemasonry ; in fact, it came from *the same source*.

Your Committee will not attempt, at this time, to investigate as to the transmission of this legitimate beginning down to the present time, when we find more than forty Subordinate Lodges and a Grand Lodge of so-called Colored Freemasons, and an aggregate of more than eight hundred members in the State of Ohio. Your Committee have only to say that such is the fact.

Your Committee have the most satisfactory and conclusive evidence that these Colored Freemasons practice the very same rites and ceremonies, and have substantially the same esoteric or secret modes of recognition as are practiced by ourselves and by the universal family of Freemasons throughout the world.

The question of the recognition of these Colored Freemasons has long been before this Grand body, and your Committee feel that its importance is pressing upon us, and demanding prompt, serious and decided action.

Your Committee, therefore, offer for adoption the following resolution :

Resolved, By the 'Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio,' that this Grand Body will recognize the so-called Grand Lodge of Colored Freemasons of the State of Ohio as a legitimate and independent Grand Lodge, on condition that the so-called Colored Grand Lodge shall change its constitutional title, so that it shall read as follows : '*The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.*' And if the said so-called Colored Grand Lodge shall accept this recognition and make the suggested change in its constitutional title, then, and in this case, upon said action being reported to the M. W. Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, under the seal of said body, then the M. W. Grand Master is hereby authorized and instructed to issue his proclamation to the subordinates to this Grand Lodge, and to the Grand Lodges throughout the world, with which we are in fraternal correspondence, recognizing the said so-called Colored Grand Lodge as an Independent Grand Lodge in the State of Ohio, under the title of '*The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.*'"

After discussion it was resolved that final action on the subject matter of the Colored Grand Lodge be deferred until the next annual Communication.

Bro. Caldwell then devotes much space to reviewing the past history of this dark question, and gives numerous extracts from proceedings of his own and other Grand Lodges as far back as 1847. We copy a letter from Bro. Albert Pike, which appears in this review :

"ALEXANDRIA, VA., 13th September, 1875.

MY DEAR FRIEND AND BROTHER,—I can see as plainly as you that the negro question is going to make trouble. There are plenty of *regular* negro Masons and negro lodges in South America and the West Indies, and our folks only *stave off* the question by saying that negro Masons here are clandestine. Prince Hall Lodge was as regular a lodge as any lodge created by competent authority, and had a perfect right (as other lodges in Europe did) to establish other lodges, making itself a mother

Lodge. That's the way the Berlin lodges, Three Globes and Royal York, became *Grand Lodges*.

The Grand Orient of Hayti is as regular as any other. So is the Grand Orient of the Dominican Republic, which, I dare say, has negroes in it and negro lodges under it.

Again, if the negro lodges are *not* regular, they can easily get regularized. If our Grand Lodges won't recognize negro lodges, they have the right to go elsewhere. The Grand Lodges can't say to eight or more Masons, black or white, we will not give you a charter because you are negroes, or because you wished to work the Scottish Rite, and you shall not go elsewhere to get one. That latter part is *bosh*.

Hamburg recognizes the Grand Lodges. Yes, and so the German Grand Lodge Confederation is going to do, and so will the Grand Orient of France before long.

Of course, if negrophily continues to be the religion established by law of our States, there will be before long *somewhere* a beginning of recognition of negro lodges. Then the Royal Arch and Templar bodies of negroes must be taken in, and Masonry go down to their level. Will your plan work? I think not. I think there is no middle ground between rigid exclusion of negroes or recognition and affiliation with the whole mass.

If they are not Masons, how protect them as such or at all? If they *are* Masons, how deny them affiliation or have two supreme powers in one jurisdiction.

I am not inclined to meddle in the matter. I took my obligations to white men, not to negroes. When I have to accept negroes as *brothers* or leave Masonry, I shall leave it.

I am interested to keep the Ancient and Accepted Rite uncontaminated, in *our* country at least, by the leprosy of negro association. Our Supreme Council can defend its jurisdiction, and it is the law-maker. There cannot be a lawful body of that Rite in our jurisdiction unless it is created by us.

I am not so sure but that, what with immensity of numbers, want of a purpose worth laboring for, general indifference to anything above mere routine, general indifference to obligations, pitiful charity and large expenses, fuss, feathers, and fandango, big temples and large debts, Masonry is become a great helpless, inert mass that will some day, before long, topple over, and go under. If you wish it should, I think you can hasten the catastrophe by urging a protectorate of the negroes. Better let the thing drift. *Après nous le deluge*.

Truly yours,

ALBERT PIKE.

III. Comp. JOHN D. CALDWELL.

From Bro. Caldwell's Table of Statistics we learn that there are negro Grand Lodges in 27 States, and also 1 in Ontario, and 9 States have 2 negro Grand Lodges in each. They report 639 private Lodges, and 12,811 members. The largest Grand Lodge is in Ohio, with 47 lodges and 1,000 members.

Any extended comments on this matter had better be deferred until we learn the final action of the Grand Lodge of Ohio. We recognize as Masons no distinctions of race, color or religion, but we also claim that there is only one regular way by which a man can become a Mason, and only one

constitutional way by which a regular Lodge of Masons can be formed.

M. W. Bro. C. A. Woodward, G. M.; R. W. Bro. J. D. Caldwell, G. Sec'y.

OREGON, 1875.

Annual Communication (25th) held at Portland, June 11th.

M. W. Bro. J. B. Congle, G. M.; R. W. Bro. R. P. Earhart, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Master visited 22 lodges out of the 50 in the jurisdiction, and reports them as steadily increasing in membership and in usefulness. He issued five dispensations for new lodges. Two of his decisions are as follows:—

“Upon the application of Scio Lodge, No. 39, to know whether: Is it a Masonic offence to divulge the expulsion of a Brother Mason to the outside world or to any one except he be a Mason?”

I decided: That it is an offence for any Brother to divulge anything that is done in the Lodge to any one not qualified to receive the same. It is true that the expulsions are published in our proceedings, but that is done by order of the Grand Lodge.”

“Question.—Has Williamette Lodge, No. 2, the power in her By-laws to exempt any member from paying the stated fee of \$3 per quarter into the funds of the Lodge?”

Answer.—The By-laws of a Masonic Lodge can never deprive it of the power of doing a charitable action; for subjects of charity always have precedence over any other business; and what is more charitable than to extend our hand to a poor, distressed Brother and forgive him his past indebtedness, or even when, for instance, a Brother had for a number of years regularly contributed to the Lodge, and when old age and misfortune had crept on him, to make him an honorary member for life. Masonry should not be mercenary, on the contrary, it should be merciful. A Lodge can at any time, in part or whole, remit the dues of any of its members, when such act shall be meritorious.”

He also decided that a brother suspended for non-payment of dues can reinstate himself by paying the amount of the arrears for which he was suspended, and that he is not obliged to pay dues for the time during which he was suspended. We cannot agree with him in this.

He suspended Bro. B. F. Brown, Grand Treasurer, finding him totally unfit for the position; and as to Grand Lodge funds he says:

“The safe of Wells, Fargo & Co, at Salem, in which Bro. B. F. Brown says he kept the Grand Lodge funds, having been robbed and all of our money having been taken, we are left penniless, with some debts over our heads. The printing of our proceedings had been contracted for and the work nearly completed. The parties holding our warrants needing their money, I advanced to the Grand Lodge sufficient funds to meet these demands, amounting to \$1,008.70, for which I hold its warrants;

of this amount, \$250 has since been refunded by Most Worshipful T. McF. Patton, Grand Treasurer, *pro tem.*, leaving \$758.70 still due me."

The loss by the robbery was about \$1,400.

He mentions in feeling terms our recent losses by death, and extends fraternal sympathy. He thinks Grand Lodge should order a return to the old practice of a separate ballot for each degree. He submits a form of Funeral Service for Lodges, and recommends as follows :—

"I would recommend that hereafter each officer of this Grand Lodge who has charge of any of its funds, shall bring them with him, or else furnish the certificate of some bank that they are there on deposit, to be turned over to the Finance Committee to enable them to verify, by actual count or certificate, that the total amount called for is on hand.

Whereas this Grand Body has not been successful dealing in lands or loaning money, I would recommend that the real estate be sold, and all outstanding notes called in. The money thus realized to be invested in United States Bonds or some other safe investment.

I have visited the real estate owned by this Grand Body in Linn county, five miles from Harrisburg, and find it to be a desirable piece of land, consisting of 102 acres, of which eighty are under cultivation, and, from reliable information obtained there, believe it can be sold for \$20 per acre.

The land owned by this Grand Body in Polk county, is also a desirable piece of land, and would bring a good, fair price."

Grand Lodge adopted the Funeral Service, which is published in full in the proceedings, and appears to be well worded and appropriate.

A Past Grand Master's Jewel of fine workmanship and pure gold, set with a sapphire, was presented to M. W. Bro. Congle by the members of his lodge.

Arrangements were made for a Masonic Re-union of the Craft in Oregon, Washington Territory and Idaho, to be held at Olympia, W. T., on August 16th, 1875, the 24th anniversary of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Oregon. British Columbia was also invited to join in, "in order that our cup of joy may be full."

The recommendations of the Finance Committee were adopted as follows :

"It will be seen that to provide for the payment of current expenses and audited indebtedness, that it will be necessary to draw on what we have termed the Reserve Fund, for at least \$700.

The warrants outstanding are held by M. W. Bro. Congle to the amount of \$758 70, being the balance of \$1,007 70, advanced by him last fall, and \$6 13, in the hands of Bro. Earhart.

We fraternally submit the following recommendations :

1st. That interest be allowed on the warrants taken up by M. W. Bro. Congle from time of making the advances thereon until paid, at the rate of twelve per cent. *per annum.*

2nd. That for the Annual Communication to be held June, 1876, Standing Resolutions No. 22 and 39 shall be so far suspended as to admit of paying mileage only.

3rd. That the notes mentioned as being in what we have called a reserve fund, be collected, and that the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to employ a suitable attorney for that purpose; *provided*, that when the prompt collection would work a hardship, that in his discretion the notes may be renewed, with ample security.

4th. That whenever it is deemed most advisable by the M. W. Grand Master, R. W. Grand Treasurer, and the W. M. of the nearest Lodge thereto, that any of the lands belonging to the Grand Lodge be sold, that the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to make such sale. And upon such sale of any of the lands belonging to this Grand Lodge, that the M. W. Grand Master and R. W. Grand Secretary be, and they are hereby authorized and directed to execute to the purchaser a good and sufficient deed therefor, in the name of this Grand Lodge under their hands as such officers and the seal of this Grand Lodge.

5th. That hereafter all surplus or reserve funds be invested in U. S. Bonds or other like securities.

6th. That custodians of Grand Lodge funds be required at each Annual Communication to present all moneys, notes and bonds in their hands, to the Finance Committee for actual count and inspection."

Grand Lodge recognized and ordered exchange of representatives with the Grand Lodges of Indian Territory, Wyoming, San Domingo, Chili and Hungary. The sureties on the bond of Grand Treasurer Brown were relieved from their liabilities by a vote of 39 to 27.

Fifty-five Lodges return 152 initiations and 2,071 members.

Bro. S. F. Chadwick has an excellent report on correspondence. Under "British Columbia," he describes his visit to Victoria, and says :

"The regalia worn by the G. L. of British Columbia, that of the Provincial G. L. of Scotland, green trimmed with gold, attracted much attention and commended itself to us for its beauty and appropriateness. A magnificent chain, an emblem of his office, was worn around the neck, and rested on the breast of the M. W. G. M. with the Jewel of St. Andrew pendant therefrom. Sashes were worn instead of the collar, crossing the breast and forming the cross of St. Andrew. The gauntlets added much to the splendor, in short the richness of the entire dress attracted particular attention; and we may add by way of parenthesis that our Brothers who wore this elegant regalia were a body of fine-looking gentlemen.

There must be something in the fresh and invigorating sea air that makes our neighbors on the north akin in liberality and hospitality. We found the same open-heartedness at Victoria that greeted us at Olympia. In their efforts to make us comfortable they were perfectly successful. There is a something often in the manner of bestowing attentions that compels one almost unconsciously to resist them, but in this case as at Olympia and along the whole route, there was a frankness and promptness about this part of the ceremony that disarmed us of all such feeling, and led us completely captive; not only that, but made us

feel as if there was something still in poor human nature that the world had not seen. And if only these occasions could be repeated to draw it out, what a benefit it would be to mankind. Our friends did all they could for us; all they wanted was opportunity, and they regretted that that was limited. When we met an English Brother we felt as if we were English also. So with a Brother of every nationality with whom we came in contact. In respect to the amenities of life we felt as if we all were one people, just as the great Father of King Solomon had made us.

Were we to refer to the ball, we should do so in connection with its supper and brilliancy. It was a grand affair. One of the Colonial papers puts the number present at 400. The supper was all that could be asked for in variety and abundance; we never saw a better one. Like everything else we found there, it was substantial. But we did not intend to sharpen the appetite of the reader by referring to the supper, we simply desired to return a word of thanks for the good things received. And, in doing this, we may add a single remark, that the ladies at that ball may also have a place in this Chapter. We did not go over to that far country to bear away their prizes as our booty. The conquest is on the other side: we are the conquered. But we must be permitted to say that we have brought back excellent recollections of the Provincial ladies who graced that ball. And it was a fine sight to witness so much beauty and intelligence as were shown by the Victoria and American ladies on that festive occasion.

In the selection of a G. M., we admire the choice of our Brethren of British Columbia. We found in Bro. Duck qualifications that eminently fit him for that high position. We feel under many obligations for his kind words to us, and for the manner in which he disposed of our time when on his hands. We shall remember him and the Brethren of his Grand Lodge with esteem, and hope to meet them again under circumstances if possible, equally pleasant."

The G. M. and G. Sec'y were re-elected.

PENNSYLVANIA—1874.

At the Quarterly Communication June 3rd, an appropriation of \$1000 was made out of the funds of the Grand Lodge to the relief of distressed brethren in Louisiana, on account of the inundation of the Mississippi.

In an appeal case it was held that a Lodge should not entertain any question or dispute which was pending in the law courts. Also, that the lodge was wrong in not receiving the evidence of persons who were not Masons.

Annual Communication held at Philadelphia, December 28th.

M. W. Bro. Alfred R. Potter, G. M.; R. W. Bro. John Thomson, G. Sec'y.

From the address of the Grand Master we take the following sensible remarks :—

"On assuming the Oriental Chair, one year since, I called the atten-

tion of the Brethren to that portion of the Ahiman Rezon, on page 34, referring to the printing and publishing the proceedings of a Lodge, or any part thereof, without the permission of the proper Masonic authority, and it has been my endeavor to enforce this regulation. I can see no good reason why the outside world should be made acquainted with any part of our work; it is an innovation of recent years, and a violation of the rules, regulations and edicts of the Grand Lodge, which every one admitted to the rites and privileges of Masonry, in a duly constituted and lawfully warranted Lodge, has voluntarily bound himself to obey.

Such violation has led to the making of many books and the introduction of lecturers, mere adventurers, who affect to dispense light and knowledge,—benefitting the profane more than the Craft, and whose whole animus is of a mercenary character. Brethren, shun them. What you cannot learn in a well-officered Lodge of intelligent Masons, they cannot teach you. I am glad to say that in some of the districts under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the District Deputy Grand Masters have set their faces against such innovations and practices, and prohibited the Lodges holding fraternal intercourse with these travelling 'book-masons.' Complaints have been made to me in our own city, calling my attention to the fraud attempted to be perpetrated on the Craft, ostensibly for the purpose of enlightenment, but in reality to sell books, relics, etc. I trust, Brethren, such things will not be tolerated. Let us keep up to the ancient customs, usages and landmarks of our fraternity."

'The amount granted by the Almoners of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund during the year was \$2,870 25 distributed among 181 applicants. The Girard Charity Fund distributed \$3,265.88 among 118 applicants. There are 357 lodges with 37,546 members.

An excellent report on correspondence was presented by Bro. E. C. Mitchell, in which Canada for 1873 appears. In his opening he says :—

"It has come down to us from those able and experienced brethren who have occupied this responsible position in past years, as an unbending rule to govern this committee, that it is no part of our duty to pass judgment upon matters either of legislation or administration wherein we find our brethren in other jurisdictions differ from our own laws and customs. That each Grand Lodge, being sovereign within the limits of its own jurisdiction, has the undoubted right to regulate its affairs according to its own judgment."

In his review of the District of Columbia we find a notice of ourselves, viz. :—

"We must respectfully differ from those who contend "that an E. A. or F. C. cannot be dimitted, but must be a completed Mason by taking these degrees before he can be a member, or be dismissed. That an E. A. in his degree, is as much a member of his Lodge as a M. M. in his degree, is, we think well settled by ancient usage. We can refer to Brother Singleton's own report for testimony on this point. On page 31 of his report, in his review of Canada, he says :

"This Grand Lodge keeps up the old Masonic Landmark, to transact

its business in the Entered Apprentice Lodge; where legitimately only can be found the Treasurer and Secretary, which officers have no business in the F.: C's.: or M.: M's.: Lodge. In the United States all the Grand Lodges since 1843, have changed from the old system, and now hold Lodges on the 1st, 2d and 3d degrees of Masonry. Originally they were called Lodges of E.: A.:, F.: C.:, and M.: M.:, which is the true title, and we have never surrendered this point nor consented to the *sin* and *iniquity* perpetrated by the Master Masons in snatching from the E.: A.: and F.: C.: all the rights to which they had been entitled from time immemorial.

There are many Masons in Pennsylvania (and not old men yet,) who can remember when the same custom prevailed here.

As the law stands now (certainly in this jurisdiction), an E. A. pays dues, has his place in the Lodge ceremonies, public and private, as arranged in authorized forms; he may be tried on charges, punished and expelled. Why then is he not a member of the Lodge? His lack of advancement may keep him from participating in certain privileges and franchises which are reserved to those of higher degree, but, if he stand clear on the books of the Lodge, and be without reproach, what good reason can there be why he should not be allowed to resign and get his dimit according to his degree? We can see none."

Grand Officers re-elected.

PENNSYLVANIA—1875.

Quarterly Communication, June 2nd, held at Philadelphia. Bro. Alfred F. Potter, M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

The Committee on Landmarks made a report (which was adopted), deciding that a petition for initiation or membership could, under their Constitution, be withdrawn before the report was made thereon, or afterwards if the report be favorable.

Bro. Samuel C. Perkins, P. G. M. and our representative, announced the decease of our late Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

The warrant of a lodge was revoked for gross irregularities in admitting as visitors six clandestine Masons.

September 1st, 1875—The number of lodges in 1874 was 357, returning 38,137 members.

The Finance Committee offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the Finance Committee be and are hereby authorized to issue a six per cent. Redemption Loan, or exchange the same at par for a like amount of the 7 3-10 Bonds of the New Masonic Temple Loans; the principal of the said Redemption Loan to be payable September 1st, A. D. 1896, or may be paid any time after September 1st, 1880, at the option of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the proceeds from the sale of these Bonds be applied exclusively to the payment and cancellation of the 7 3-10 Bonds of the New Masonic Temple Loans."

December 1st, 1875—At this meeting the Grand officers

were elected. Bro. Potter declined re-election, and Bro. Robert Clark was elected Grand Master. Bro. John Thomson was re-elected Grand Secretary.

Very full reports were presented by a number of committees, namely: the Committee on Finance; the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund; the Trustees of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund; the Trustees of the Girard Bequest; the Temple Committee; and the Library Committee.

The Annual Communication at which the officers were installed was held at Philadelphia, December 27th.

The W. M. of a lodge was ordered to be expelled for unmasonic conduct, under the following circumstances:

“The gist of the offence against Masonic law, usage and landmarks, of which C. A. S—— is charged with having committed, is limited to the single act of his being present in Lodge No. 4** when, and at a regular stated meeting thereof, he witnessed the favorable action of said Lodge on the petition of an individual who was balloted for and approved, and found worthy of initiation and membership in said Lodge, when he, the said C. A. S——, knew, from lawful Masonic information, that insurmountable obstacles existed, which, if communicated to the said Lodge No. 4** by him, the said C. A. S——, would have stopped the proceedings on the part of Lodge No. 4**.”

This is a very grave Masonic offence. It is one which the Grand Lodge holds to be inexcusable, and the landmark of Masonry visits with the penalty which must exclude the guilty from all association with the fraternity.

Ignorance, inexperience, or lack of knowledge, or want of Masonic light, cannot, for a moment, be permitted to exempt one guilty from the penalty. The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge has not the power in such a case, to exempt one shown to have violated their landmark from the punishment which can only follow the commission of the offence. It is beyond the power of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge. An attempt to exercise such a power is impossible of a successful result. It is a landmark that has been violated, and the Grand Lodge has no authority over the penalty for violating a landmark—none. The case stands beyond the reach of remedy.

Your Committee offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That Lodge No. 3** be directed to expel C. A. S. from membership.”

The Board of Almoners distributed \$3,185 among 183 applicants. The Girard Charity granted \$2,961 to 165 poor and respectable brethren.

An address was delivered by the retiring Grand Master at the close of the meeting, in which he says:

“During my official term I have visited a large number of Lodges throughout the State, holding Grand Lodges of Instruction at several important points, and often deviating from the well-trodden paths of my immediate predecessors to minister at the Altars of Masonry in the most sparsely settled sections of the State, being met at all times in the most

fraternal and kindly manner, the Craft evincing a deep interest in the work as exemplified and authorized by this Grand Lodge, and expressing in the warmest and most unqualified terms their gratification at having been present to meet the Grand Officers."

"It affords me great pleasure to call your special attention to the improved condition of the Finances of this Grand Lodge. The Finance Committee acting upon the resolutions submitted to them and approved by this body at the September Communication, notified the public through the newspapers, and the various Masonic bodies meeting in this city, that they were prepared to receive subscriptions to the new Loan at a rate of interest not exceeding six per cent., the funds thus obtained to be applied to the redemption of the then existing 7 3-10 per cent. Loan. The result of their labors exceeds our most sanguine expectations; the old Loan is being rapidly called in, and there is every reason to believe that before the next Quarterly Communication in March, the Loan will have been paid off, or substituted for the new six per cent. Loan."

Bro. E. C. Mitchell and John C. Uhle present a very interesting report on correspondence, in which our Proceedings for 1874 and 1875 receive notice.

Some discoveries have lately been made which indicate that Philadelphia, and not Boston, is entitled to the honor of having had the first Masonic Lodge in America. Probably some of our Brethren in Quebec may yet find evidence of a lodge there prior to 1730, as we are of opinion that that field of labor has never yet been properly explored. We quote as under :

"There is another subject of much interest, if not importance, to the Craft in Pennsylvania, which has been brought to our attention by a letter from that well-known Masonic scholar and antiquarian, Brother Wm. James Hughan, Past Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of England, to our Right Worshipful Grand Master Potter, and by him referred to this committee, in relation to the first establishment of Masonry on this continent. For some years prior to 1873, it was considered to be a point settled beyond controversy, that the first Masonic Lodge in existence in America was one in Boston, Massachusetts, constituted by Provincial Grand Master Henry Price, in 1733. That conclusion had been reached after the question had been carefully investigated by competent authorities, and the evidence was accepted as satisfactory by the Fraternity generally. It was admitted that Bro. Price was not the first Provincial Grand Master in America, for there was reliable testimony that the deputation from the Grand Lodge of England to Bro. Daniel Coxe as Provincial Grand Master for New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, was two years prior to that of Brother Price, but it was asserted that Daniel Coxe had not acted under his deputation, and no evidence was forthcoming to disprove the assertion.

This was the generally received belief until July, 1874, when an article from the pen of Bro. Clifford P. MacCalla appeared simultaneously in *The Keystone* and the *London Masonic Magazine*, calling attention to the fact that there were evidences of the existence of a Lodge or Lodges in Philadelphia as early as 1730, and of a Grand Lodge in 1732, to be found in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* for those years, edited and printed by Bro.

Benjamin Franklin. The evidence of this early newspaper (the existence and authenticity of which cannot be doubted) was entitled to the more weight, as Brother Franklin, the printer, was himself one of the elected Wardens of the Grand Lodge in 1732.

The memorial volume of our New Temple, published shortly after the dedication ceremonies made a full recapitulation of these facts and also contained a reference to a letter, written in 1754 by Brother Henry Bell, of Lancaster, stating that in 1730 a Lodge in Philadelphia had petitioned the Grand Lodge of England for a charter, but before obtaining it, heard of the deputation of Daniel Coxe as Provincial Grand Master, and applied to him, and their request was granted.

These statements coming from members of our own Grand Lodge, which was so nearly interested in the decision of the question thus raised, were enough to open a new discussion among the antiquarians and historians of the craft, which is still actively going on. Brother Hughan, who is entirely disinterested, and is earnest only to arrive at the truth, has given the subject a careful consideration, and in doing so has discovered an item of evidence, which is peculiarly important in showing that at least one Lodge in Philadelphia, of a date prior to 1731, was recognized by the Fraternity in England as a regularly constituted Lodge.

His letter is as follows :

TRURO, England, June 2nd, 1875.

“ *M. W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania :*

V. D. B.—I have made an important discovery, and hasten to announce the fact officially to you through the medium of my esteemed friend and Brother, Charles Eugene Meyer.

As you are aware, in the ‘Memorial Volume,’ and in the *Keystone*, particulars have been made known which prove there were Lodges in existence in Philadelphia prior to the advent of the Lodge at Boston, A. D. 1733, and, *so far*, the City of Philadelphia has established its claim to be considered the *mother* of American Freemasonry.

There *may have* been earlier Lodges, but as yet the proof is wanting, and meanwhile Philadelphia may rest content with its proud position.

Nothing, however, has transpired as to the date and No. of the Warrant (or Warrants) of the Lodge (or Lodges) in the City of Philadelphia, prior to A. D. 1733, and up to this period no one has discovered any special particulars as to the Lodges in question.

It is my pleasure and privilege to make known the result of my researches on this subject, as per annexed table, carefully prepared by me.

** [The table consists of a comparison of several editions of the *Pocket Companion* for Freemasons for 1735, 1736 and 1738, giving lists of Lodges, and showing No. 79 as a Lodge in Philadelphia.] **

In Smith’s *Pocket Companion* for Freemasons, published at Dublin in 1735, is a list of Lodges for Ireland, England, &c., &c. The Lodges are not numbered according to the Roll of each Grand Lodge, but, strange to say, *consecutively*, so that, as 37 Irish Lodges are first enumerated, the No. 1 under the Grand Lodge of England is No. 38—Now, No. 116, (or in reality 116—37=79) reads as follows :

‘ 116. The Hoop in Water Street, in Philadelphia,
1st Monday !!! ’

In the edition of the ‘*Pocket Companion*’ published in London for the

same year, but evidently a copy of the Dublin book, No. 79 (the same number as the foregoing) is *blank*, as also in the 'Freemasons' Pocket Companion' of 1736 (London), but in the second edition of the latter, issued two years afterwards (A. D. 1738), a London Lodge is *inserted*.

Brother Walter Spencer, of Great Queen Street, London, has kindly permitted me to examine the engraved List of Lodges for the years 1736, 1737 and 1738, published by authority of the Grand Lodge. (These may always be considered to refer to a period later than the years mentioned, as they are dedicated to the Grand Master installed in December of the *year of publication*). In all these *three* calendars, the Lodge held in Little St. Martin's Lane, London, is inserted.

Unfortunately, Brother Spencer (who has taken considerable trouble to aid me) has no earlier list; neither is there any in Grand Lodge between 1736 and 1725, so that at present the Dublin Calendar of 1735 is without collateral support. Should, however, a list of Lodges be found (engraved by Cole,) of 1733 to 1735, I am persuaded it will agree with the Pocket Companion of 1735. *The only American Lodge in the Dublin List of Lodges* is 79 (116), Philadelphia, and in the list of 1735 at London, there is *not one* (No. 79 being vacant). The Pocket Companion of 1738 is the same, only No. 79 was a London Lodge inserted, and the No. 126, which, in all the issues mentioned else (*i. e.*, 1735-6 of the 'Companions'), was engraved or printed for a London Lodge of Nov. 5th, 1734. In the edition of 1738 has instead, 'Boston, in New England,' and No. 139 reads, 'Savannah, in the Province of Georgia.'

Now 79, Philadelphia (as my table shows) has Lodges warranted in 1731, *before* and *after* it, and allowing for the distance to New England from London, and the slowness of transit in those days, as also the probability of delay in sending word of its constitution, it was doubtless started in A. D. 1730.

It is generally safe to allow one year earlier for Lodges constituted abroad as compared with those warranted in England, which immediately precede and follow; *e. g.*, the Lodge No. 126 warranted and held in London from November 1734, as per lists of 1735, was replaced in 1736 (Cole's list) and 1738, (Companion) by 'Boston in New England,' constituted, as we know, by Major Price in 1733.

I have, I hope, made it plain that the Lodge at Philadelphia had an existence of three years (*circa*) before the advent of the Lodge in Boston, and I have therefore established the fact from an independent source that Philadelphia is the *premier* Masonic City of New England and of America.

Brother Daniel Coxe was Provincial Grand Master by Patent dated 5th June, 1730, and was the *premier* Provincial Grand Master of America for the Provinces of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. It is more than probable that he constituted other Lodges besides the one mentioned (No. 79, Philadelphia), of which apparently all traces are lost.

New Jersey and New York *may* yet wrest the laurels from Philadelphia, but we cannot see any signs of their doing so at present, because of the lack of evidence. As to any other part of America doing so, it seems to me impossible, because the Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania (as also of New Jersey and New York,) was the first ever appointed for any part of America, and it is scarcely likely he would constitute Lodges in other parts before he attended to his own jurisdictions.

I made the fortunate purchase of the 'Pocket Companion' from Bro. Walter Spencer prior to his intention to submit all his valuable Masonic library to auction in July ensuing, and I am much delighted at being the

medium of discovering a fact of such importance to the accurate study of the History of Freemasonry in America. I expect soon to again examine the matter and shall, if possible, write a sketch of the subject in the *Voice of Masonry*, Chicago, whose able editors, Brother Brown and Dr. Mackey, will doubtless well test my facts as independent Masonic students, not connected in any way with either jurisdiction.

With my hearty good wishes for the prosperity of Freemasonry in general, and Pennsylvania in particular, believe me,

Fraternally yours,

WM. JAMES HUGHAN.'

Brother Hughan has kept his promise, and there is in the *Voice of Masonry* for September last, an article from his pen, in which he reviews the whole question, and states his conviction to be that as the evidence stands now, Philadelphia is the *premier* Masonic City, and Pennsylvania the first Masonic State of America.

The Committee think that Brother Hughan is entitled to the thanks of this Grand Lodge for his zeal and industry on our behalf, and for the gift of the Pocket Companion of which he speaks, which he has deposited in our Grand Lodge library. This will, no doubt, be made the subject of remark by our Library Committee, also."

At the Quarterly Communication, held on March 1st, 1876, Bro. Richard Vaux submitted a special report on correspondence in regard to the Grand Lodges with which this Grand Lodge held fraternal relations, and also those to which Masonic recognition should be extended. This report says that "a most unfortunate state of affairs exists in some of the so-called Grand Lodges in Europe; * * * that the essential principles of Freemasonry are ignored, or so mutilated or watered with 'isms' that they can with difficulty be recognized," and the report concludes as follows:

"Eight bodies claiming to be Masonic Grand Lodges in Europe have formed a Masonic Diet, or grand governing national Masonic authority, which assumes powers over, and regulates the rights and privileges of the inferior bodies that have surrendered these rights to this Diet. Among the extraordinary powers claimed by this German Masonic Diet, or League, is 'the right of jurisdiction,' or a control over it. This Diet has the disposition it would seem, to go into any Grand Lodge jurisdiction of the States of the United States, and set up Lodges, under the plea of nationality, that Masons so organized into a Lodge, are Germans, or work in the German tongue, and therefore owe allegiance to this German Grand Diet. This appears to be the logical deduction from a claim of the 'right of jurisdiction.'

It is also claimed by this Diet that 'the object and aim of this League is to secure and promote the unity and Masonic joint action of the Lodges in Germany, and to assume in common a Masonic attitude toward the Grand Lodges outside of Germany;' that 'it is exclusively the business of the German Grand Lodge League to determine whether new alliances shall be formed with Grand Lodges outside of Germany, and whether those already formed are to be dissolved.' 'The Grand Lodge Diet is the organ of the Grand Lodge League, and this Grand

Lodge Diet consists of the eight Grand Masters and the two Master Masons, elected by each Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodges which are assumed once to have been supreme and sovereign bodies, but have now surrendered some of their inherent powers which are inseparable from Masonic sovereignty, are :

I. The Grand National Mother Lodge of the Prussian States, zu den drei Weltkugeln, at Berlin.

II. The Grand Lodge of Saxony, at Dresden.

III. The Grand Lodge of Hamburg, at Hamburg.

IV. The Grand Lodge of the Eclectic Union at Frankfort-on-the-Main.

V. The Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Germany, at Berlin.

VI. The Grand Lodge of Freemasons zur sonne at Bayreuth.

VII. The Grand Lodge of Prussia called Royal York, zur Freundschaft, at Berlin.

VIII. The Grand Lodge zur Eintracht, at Darmstadt.

Whatever may be the future relations of this Diet with lawfully organized Grand Lodges, it is very evident to every member of our Grand Lodge, that there can be no longer any Masonic intercourse with, or recognition by, the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, and the Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging, of either this Diet, or the emasculated Masonic bodies that are its present constituents, during the existence of this Diet with its present character.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is old enough and wise enough to understand her own duty, and no greater benefit can be conferred by her on her sister Grand Lodges, both in the States of our Union, and wherever Masonry is to be maintained on the landmarks, than by declaring in her conservative action, that no recognition can be given to this Diet, or its constituents. All time has proven that the abandonment of Masonic law brings its own condemnation.

Your Committee have also to report that the so-called Grand Orient of Italy, France, Brazil, Portugal, Hungary, Egypt, the Association called the Grand Lodge of Polynesia, the so-called Grand Lodge of Indian Territory (U. S.), the several associations called Lodge of Memphis, the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, and Grand Lodge of Australia, are not in such a Masonic condition as to justify the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania recognizing them as Masonic Grand Lodges, and such recognition is hereby withheld."

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—1875.

We have the proceedings of the preliminary Conventions to organize this new Grand Lodge, and the minutes of the first annual Communication.

The first meeting was held in the St. John's Hall, Charlotte-town, October 31st, 1874; another on December 17th, 1874, and a third on January 28th, 1875. At this last meeting the following resolutions were adopted :—

"*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of the Representatives here assembled, measures should, with the least possible delay, be taken for the formation of a Grand Lodge for Prince Edward Island, and that this Resolution and the information now obtained be communicated by the Representatives to their respective Lodges, and by the Secretary of this meet-

ing to the Lodges from whom no delegates are now present (Mount Lebanon and Alexandra).

Resolved, That this meeting be adjourned until the 4th Wednesday of February next, then to be held at Mt. Lebanon Lodge, Summerside, at 7 o'clock p. m., and that each Lodge be requested to send three Representatives, Delegates or Proxies to such meeting, who shall be empowered by their respective Lodges to vote finally either for or against the formation of a Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That it is considered advisable that a fund of not less than five dollars (\$5.00) from each member of the intended Grand Lodge be paid for the purpose of raising a fund for the establishment of such Grand Lodge, and that each Lodge be requested to assist the Masters, Past Masters and Wardens in providing the said sum of \$5.00 each."

At the adjourned meeting held February 24th, 1875, it was decided that the organization should take place on June 23rd, 1875, and a Committee was appointed to declare their intention to the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, Canada, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, and to ask the Grand Masters of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to attend for the purpose of installing the Officers.

On June 23rd, 1875, the final Convention was held at Charlottetown. Seven lodges were represented by their Masters, Past Masters and Wardens—35 in all. Six of these Lodges were on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of England, and one on the Scotch Registry. The organization was completed by the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the Rules governing the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick be adopted for the government of this Convention.

Resolved, That each general vote of the Convention shall be by individual representatives, and that a vote by Lodges may be called for by any member, when each Lodge shall have one vote.

Resolved, That the Representatives now in Convention assembled on behalf of the Lodges represented by them do hereby declare themselves to be 'The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Prince Edward Island.'

Resolved, That the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick be for the present adopted as the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, so far as the same may be found applicable to existing circumstances, except nevertheless, that all the Officers of Grand Lodge shall be elected."

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do now proceed to the election of Office Bearers, and that such election be conducted by nomination and Ballot."

Officers were then elected as follows:—

M. W.	Hon. John Yeo,	Grand Master.
R. W.	T. A. McLean,	Deputy Grand Master.
"	John Muirhead,	Senior Grand Warden.
"	J. A. Matheson,	Junior Grand Warden.
V. W.	J. D. Mason,	Grand Treasurer.
"	B. W. Higgs,	Grand Secretary.

It was then decided that the number and standing of the Lodges should be determined by the dates of their respective Warrants under which they have been working. Until the issue of new Warrants the Grand Master was empowered to issue dispensations to continue their work. A committee was appointed to frame a Constitution.

The first annual Communication was held on the following day, June 24th, 1875. M. W. Bro. John V. Ellis, Grand Master of New Brunswick, presided and installed the Officers, and conducted the ceremonies of consecrating and dedicating the new Grand Lodge. After which they attended Divine Service in St. Paul's Church. A petition from eleven brethren for a new lodge in Charlottetown was granted.

At an adjourned meeting held on August 12th, 1875, a Constitution was adopted.

All things having thus been done "decently and in order," we heartily and cordially recognize and welcome the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and wish them a long and prosperous career of usefulness.

QUEBEC—1875.

Annual Communication (6th), held at Montreal, September 22nd.

M. W. Bro. James Dunbar, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John H. Isaacson, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Master delivered an able and interesting address. Five more Grand Lodges recognized Quebec during the year then passed, making 43 in all. They have now 60 Lodges and over 3,000 members. He mentions as two important events the Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England, and the Dedication of the new Masonic Temple in New York.

On the death of our late Grand Master he says :—

"Early in the year official communication was received of the decease of Judge William Mercer Wilson, LL. D., Grand Master of Masons in the Province of Ontario. I at once directed that the Lodges under this jurisdiction should go into mourning for the great loss sustained by the death of the Grand Master of the sister Province, who was well known to most of the brethren here present as a venerated and zealous Mason. In 1855 he was elected as first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and occupied the chair for five years, retiring in 1860, but being again elected in 1866, he sat for two years, when in consequence of a judicial appointment, he declined to offer himself for re-election. He was in 1872, however, prevailed upon to preside over the Order, and consented, and was re-elected in 1872 and 1873 and last year, remaining in office until his death. His eminence in the Order is evidenced by the fact that a Masonic district and several Lodges in Ontario bear his name.

Anxious to do all in his power for the promotion of harmony in the Craft,—whose first motto is brotherly love—his name will long be treasured in our memories, in connection with the difficulties with which the formation of our Grand Lodge was attended, as the great peace-maker of Masonic Canada. We know what is the reward of those who act in this wise, and let us hope that when we have fulfilled our earthly destiny we may have the equal consummation of our wishes in seeing lowering clouds disappear, and knowing that our hand helped them to melt away beneath similar benign influences. I have no doubt the Grand Lodge will express its sympathy to its sister Grand Lodge by passing a vote of condolence on the death of their Grand Master."

We also copy the following on the conditional recognition by the Grand Lodge of England :—

"In April last a letter was received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, informing us that at its Quarterly Communication of the 3rd March, on the recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master, the following resolution was unanimously passed :

'The M. W. Grand Master has received official information from the Hon. Sir John Macdonald, K. C. B., the representative of this Grand Lodge at the Grand Lodge of Canada, that the difficulties subsisting between the latter and the newly formed Grand Lodge of Quebec, have been happily adjusted, and the Grand Lodge of Quebec recognized by the Grand Lodge of Canada. The M. W. Grand Master, therefore, having in view the various applications from the Grand Lodge of Quebec for recognition, and interchange of representatives, which could not be entertained until the above mentioned difficulties were settled, now recommends Grand Lodge to accede to the wishes of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, on the same conditions as were agreed to by the Grand Lodge of Canada, viz., that the Grand Lodge of England agrees not to grant any new warrants within the Province of Quebec, but that the three Lodges still working under English warrants within that Province, shall continue to do so as long as they desire to retain their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England.

Resolved, That the recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master be adopted and the Grand Lodge of Quebec acknowledged on the conditions referred to, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Grand Lodge of Quebec.'

I commend this communication and other correspondence on the subject to your careful consideration. I shall be sorry if any rigid or uncompromising ideas as to exclusive jurisdiction in this Province (as to which I am and always have been fully alive), delay the laying of the capstone of Masonic recognition. Twenty years ago when the Grand Lodge of Canada was formally recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, similar terms were proposed and accepted and have since been submitted to. I am in favor of leaving it to time, rather than to immediate coercion to bring into our ranks the few lodges in this Province now working under other jurisdictions. Let the advantage of belonging to the Grand Lodge of the country of one's adoption or birth—duly recognized as such by all other Masonic bodies—be made apparent, and I have no doubt how properly constituted minds will choose."

He issued one Dispensation for a new Lodge in Montreal. He recommends the amalgamation of the duplicate Lodges at present existing.

From the report of the D. D. G. M. of the Montreal District we learn that there are three lodges working under the Grand Registry of England and one under that of Scotland. They have no sufficient supervision, and their conduct depends entirely on the personal character of their Worshipful Masters for the time being. Bro. Miller thinks that Grand Lodge should assert its rights to undivided supremacy and exclusive Masonic jurisdiction within the Province of Quebec.

Word was received during the session of the unconditional recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec by the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, P. G. M. entered Grand Lodge and was received with grand honors. M. W. Bro. Thos. White, Jr., was also in attendance.

It was moved that the conditional recognition of the Grand Lodge of England be not accepted. In amendment it was moved :—

“That the consideration of the acceptance by this Grand Lodge of recognition by the Grand Lodge of England, in the terms proposed by the latter, as set forth in the address of the M. W. the Grand Master, be postponed until the next Communication of this Grand Lodge, and that a committee be appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master to confer with the Lodges now existing in this Province under warrants from other jurisdictions, with a view to effect, if possible, the amicable junction of said Lodges with this Grand Lodge, and that said committee report progress to the M. W. the Grand Master, from time to time, in order that such report may be submitted for the consideration of this Grand Lodge, whose decision only in the matter shall be final.”

After a long and interesting discussion the amendment was carried by a vote of 84 in favor against 7 opposing.

The Committee on re-numbering the Lodges were granted further time to make their report.

The Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Wyoming were recognized.

M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, G. Sec'y.

RHODE ISLAND—1875.

A Festival Communication was held on June 24th, 1874, at Newport. After opening, a Grand procession was formed.

“The procession then marches to the Opera House which is tastefully decorated for the occasion, to attend the exercises of the day: The Grand Lodge occupies the stage, the escorting Bodies the parquet, while the galleries were filled with ladies.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

Music,	<i>Gilmore's Band.</i>
Reading Psalm CXXXIII.,	<i>W. Grand Chaplain.</i>
Festival Hymn—"Let our theme of praise ascending,"	<i>Mendelssohn,</i>
	<i>Masonic Orpheus Club.</i>
Responsive Reading from Psalms,	<i>Grand Chaplain and Brethren.</i>
"Gloria in Excelsis Deo" (Mozart's 12th Mass),	<i>Masonic Orpheus.</i>
Prayer,	<i>W. Grand Chaplain.</i>
Masonic Ode—"When Earth's Foundation first was Laid."	<i>Masonic Orpheus.</i>
Oration,	<i>R. W. Tracy P. Cheever, of Chelsea.</i>

The Festival wound up with a Grand Banquet, given by St. John's Lodge No. 1, of Newport.

A Semi-annual Communication was held on November 16th, 1874. In the answer to an application to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, asking them to relinquish jurisdiction over a petitioner for degrees, who had become a resident of Rhode Island, the following appears:—

"That the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania neither claims jurisdiction over any one removing from here to another State, with the intention of making it his permanent residence—nor does it recognize the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge over one who has removed to this State, with the intention of making it his permanent residence."

We approve of the position thus taken by Pennsylvania, and notice it, as it is different from that taken by some other Grand Lodges.

After due consideration of the report of M. W. Ariel Ballou, P. G. M. on the Louisiana vs. France question, it was

Ordered, "That this M. W. Grand Lodge do hereby declare that the Grand Orient of France, in derogation of the lawful authority of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, by recognizing and fraternizing with the so-called 'Supreme Council of Louisiana,' has violated the well established law of the supremacy of Grand Lodges within their respective jurisdictions and that we in vindication of the rights of our Sister Grand Lodge of Louisiana; forbid all Masonic intercourse between the members of the Masonic Fraternity of this jurisdiction, and the initiates and members of the Grand Orient of France and its subordinates; and with the initiates and members of the so-called 'Supreme Council of Louisiana' and its subordinates."

We agree with both of the following recommendations:—

"FIRST—That the first decision therein contained is declared void, it being the opinion of this M. W. Grand Lodge that the signature of a Mason to a petition for a dispensation to open or form a new Lodge did not effect in any way his standing in his own Lodge; his rights therein remaining unimpaired. No member of a Lodge can sever his connection therewith without the consent of the Lodge, and the assent

of the Lodge to the petition for a dispensation cannot be construed to be a dimit or a temporary suspension of his membership."

"THIRD—That the fifth decision therein contained is declared void, it being the opinion of this M. W. Grand Lodge, that it is the duty of a Lodge to assist its members when in need, no matter where they may be. If the member is in good standing, he has the right to call upon his Lodge to assist him in his hour of trouble, and his Lodge should heed his cry of distress and, as far as in their power, minister to his relief."

The annual Communication (85th) was held at Providence May 17th, 1875.

M. W. Bro. Nicholas Van Slyck, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Edwin Baker, G. Sec'y.

The address of the Grand Master is brief and practical. He urges the consideration of building a Masonic Temple. He dedicated two Halls and made three Grand Visitations. He suggests that an authorized Monitor should be prepared. His decisions were as follows :

"1st. That the action of the M. W. Grand Lodge granting a new trial leaves the Brother's relationship to his Lodge as it was previous to his trial by the Lodge.

2nd. That it is the right of a member of a Lodge to stop the advancement of a Brother to the Second or Third Degrees of Freemasonry, which right is absolute unless 'such member shall voluntarily make known to the Lodge the nature of his objection' when 'the same may be overruled by a vote of two thirds of the members present' (see Constitution, Article VI., Section 16.)"

The Grand Lodges of Indian Territory and Wyoming were recognized.

It was resolved that

"The Masters of Subordinate Lodges are hereby forbidden to so construe Sections 14 and 15 of Article VI. of the Constitution as to permit the advancement of a Brother to a higher degree, who has not given in open Lodge the first Section of the lecture of the degree he has last received, or to sign the By-Laws of this Lodge, until he has in the same manner given the first Section of the Third Degree."

We have to call the particular attention of our readers to the following resolution, so that they may be sure to take with them their Grand Lodge Certificates when visiting in Rhode Island :—

"Ordered, That visitors applying for admission to any Subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction, shall present a diploma or certificate under seal of the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction from which they hail, and pass a strict examination, unless they are avouched for by some well known Brother, as Masons in good and regular standing."

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence. The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—1875.

Annual Communication (99th) held at Charleston, December 14th; M. W. Bro. Jas. A. Hoyt, G. M.; R. W. Bro. Chas. Inglesby, G. Secretary.

The Grand Master congratulates the brethren on the prosperous and harmonious condition of the Craft. Under a resolution of the Grand Lodge he had convened together the District Deputy Grand Masters and other Officers for the purpose of settling on the work. After a patient and careful revision they agreed upon the Ritual. He thinks that dual membership is a modern custom, in which we do not agree with him, as it is quite certain that it was practiced prior to 1724, and probably long before then.

He advocates giving assistance to the Washington Monument, and states that their finances are in an improved condition.

The report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, contains an able vindication of the rights of elected candidates, and furnishes very strong arguments against the allowance of objections after a favorable ballot. This report was adopted by Grand Lodge and is as follows. We give it our hearty approval:—

“That at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, held in 1873, the then Committee on Jurisprudence submitted in their Report the following Resolution, among others, to wit:

Resolved, That when a candidate has received a favorable ballot, the naked objection of a member not present at the ballot will not prevent the Degree balloted for, being conferred. The objector is required to assign a reason for his objection, or prefer charges as the case requires, and upon the validity of which the Lodge shall pass.

This Resolution, after some debate, was recommitted to the same Committee, together with the action of the Grand Lodge in the year 1871, (referring to the subject matter therein contained), to be reported on at the next Annual Communication. (See Proceedings 1873, p. 65.)

The action taken in the year 1871, was as follows: After a candidate has been duly elected to receive a degree, can he be ‘estopped’ by the objection of a member of the Lodge, made either in open Lodge, or privately to the Worshipful Master; no reason being given by the objecting member?

Every candidate for advancement is required to undergo the preliminary scrutiny of a ballot upon each degree. Where this scrutiny has been once passed, the person elected cannot be estopped by the objection of a member. If reasons have arisen why the degree should not be conferred, such reasons should be expressed in such a way as to permit the accused an opportunity for defence. If it is upon advancement, the reasons should be expressed in charges against the member seeking advancement; and thereupon, a trial may be had. If it is as to one who has not been initiated, the reason should be so assigned as will enable the Lodge to consider the validity or invalidity thereof.

At the last Annual Communication, the Committee of the year before having been dissolved by the departure from our midst of R. W. Brother G. T. Berg, the subject was referred to the present Committee, with instructions to report at this Communication.

The question is one which has provoked great discussion, and upon which the decisions in the several jurisdictions have been varied and diverse. Your Committee, however, after most careful consideration, are forced to report again the Resolution submitted to this Grand Lodge in 1874, as containing the proper answer to the question; and as the subject is an important one, they deem it proper to give their views somewhat in detail.

There are certain requirements laid down for admission into a Lodge, which are publicly made known, to wit: That a petition setting forth certain facts, and duly recommended, must be presented and read at one Communication, referred to a Committee, and upon their favorable report, be submitted to the suffrages of the Lodge, not earlier than the next Communication, when an unanimous ballot is required. And even then, but one degree can be conferred, as the candidate is obliged to submit to successive and separate ballots before he can receive the succeeding degrees, which ballots must also be unanimous, and cannot be spread at intervals of less than a month apart.

Now, what is the reason for this, but to notify members of the Lodge, as publicly as possible, who are the candidates, and give ample opportunities for any one having objections to reject an unworthy applicant by his secret ballot. It is the duty of every member of the Lodge to be present, and if not on hand at each Communication, by attending, at least, alternately, he can be thoroughly posted; if not there, he loses the privilege accorded to him, and is not true in his duty to the craft, and he has no one to blame but himself.

But is the candidate at fault? He has fulfilled all that has been required of him, and that he was told would be required, and can he not then claim that the Lodge fulfil also its promise? Our Grand Lodge Constitution in words declares, after reciting the preliminaries stated above: 'And if unanimously elected he *shall* receive the degrees conferred by the Lodge, on his paying the fees established by the Grand Lodge.' Chapter XXIII, Article 131. Has the candidate not, then, the right to demand, upon tender of such fees, that the degrees *shall* be conferred on him?

Were the contrary rule adopted the candidate would be obliged to stand, not one ballot for each degree, but an indefinite ballot, dependent upon the time when he may chance to obtain his degree and the pleasure and convenience of the member to attend; and if it be considered one of the rights of a member of a Lodge to have his wishes as to the reception of candidates considered at any time, should not the committee be instructed to call on or communicate with each brother and ascertain whether he desires to object before any degree is given, or not go through the farce of requiring an unanimous ballot, and have the Worshipful Master tell of the pleasure it gives him to announce that the candidate has been duly elected to receive his degree, when he well knows that if he does not happen to get it at once, but is delayed, then some loitering brother may come in, and with the talisman, 'I object?' quietly wipe out the entire action and cancel the pleasurable announcement. And then, the express provision of the Constitution that the candidate *shall* receive his degrees if the ballot be clear when taken, is done away with by the mere, unsupported *obiter dictum* of some brother.

No; the rule and manner of admission are made public by ourselves,

are in print, and are perfectly well known, and if a candidate has done everything that we claim of him, he is entitled to his degree, unless the objection be accompanied with reason sufficient to authorise the Lodge in refusing him. A mason so derelict as to know not the proceedings of his own Lodge deserves no favor from the Craft, and no aid in sustaining his simple, unsupported objection, and while your Committee yield to none in their desire to preserve the purity of the Order, still they are mindful also of the fact that justice is one of its chief foundation stones—justice not only to the craft, but justice to the candidate at the gate, justice to all mankind.

They would therefore recommend the adoption of the resolution submitted to this Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication in 1873, and already quoted in this report."

The W. M. of a Lodge was suspended for initiating a man with but one leg. Very right say we.

There are 179 Lodges with 7,435 members.

A memorial page is set apart for the lamented Robert S. Bruns, P. G. M., who died February 14th, 1874. He was a Mason of high repute, and very generally known and respected. The Craft in South Carolina sustained a very great loss in his death.

The Report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary. It covers 108 pages, and is remarkably well written. He reviews *all* the Grand Lodges of North America, 52 in number. Canada for 1874 and 1875 receives a good notice.

M. W. Bro. Wilmot G. DeSanssure, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Chas. Inglesby, G. Sec'y.

TENNESSEE—1874.

Annual Communication (61st) held at Nashville, November 9th.

M. W. Bro. James D. Richardson, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John Frizzell, G. Sec'y.

Lodges represented, 349 ; not represented, 34. Initiations, 1,218 ; members, 19,762.

The Grand Master reports that peace and harmony prevail all over their jurisdiction. He is of opinion that Masonry is more popular in Tennessee now than ever before, and a greater disposition to multiply Lodges. He rejected a majority of the applications made for new Lodges, and granted six. He thinks they should not open with less than 20 members, so as to be self-sustaining in the matter of mileage and per diem. In 1873 there were 68 lodges, which received as much or more in mileage and per diem to their representative than they contributed in Grand Lodge dues for that year.

A brother was charged with slandering his lodge. He

defended himself by pleading that as the lodge was itself a party to the suit it could not try him. The Grand Master decided that his plea was not good and the lodge could try him.

A lodge of sorrow was held in memory of Bro. Samuel McManus who was Grand Master in 1838, and who died in April, 1874.

M. W. Bro. A. J. Wheeler, was elected G. M ; R. W. Bro. John Frizzell, Grand Sec'y.

TENNESSEE—1875.

Annual Communication (62nd) held at Nashville, November 8th.

M. W. Bro. A. J. Wheeler, G. M.; R. W. Bro. John Frizzell, G. Sec'y.

Lodges represented, 345 ; not represented, 51. Initiations, 405 ; members, 17,994.

From the very able address of the Grand Master we extract as follows :—

“ My greatest pleasure, the past year, has been in visiting Lodges, sometimes kindly accompanied by some of the best working Masons of Memphis. Not very many Lodges, it is true, have I visited, but as many as my time and circumstances would permit. The kind consideration and respect shown me, and the positive good that I am informed was the result, lead me to suggest that if possible, it would be well for Grand Masters to visit all sections of the State, and go to all Lodges that are in trouble, lukewarm, or discouraged, or where discipline is not exercised as Masonry requires. This, however, would involve expense and time that but few Grand Masters could afford, unless salaried for that purpose. I will not suggest a salary for your chief officer, but I would recommend that some system of visitation should be adopted by this Grand Body. It might be done by the usual practice adopted by other Grand Lodges, through District Deputy Grand Masters, or Grand Lecturers, or by the Grand Officers of the State. Our jurisdiction is now too large for the latter, and this Grand Lodge knows too little of the work, condition, intelligence, wants, and necessities of the Lodges to let matters remain as they now are. The tendency of the Masonic Fraternity in our State, I am pleased to affirm, has been to be more rigid in discipline, and require Masons to live more in accordance with Masonic teachings. The signs are good as to our Order. Masonry is gradually elevating the moral and Masonic standard of its members, and peace, good feeling, and unity, except in very few localities, prevail throughout the State.

Our Grand Lodge should, however, secure more information in regard to the particular Lodges of the State. It should know where the weak and strong are—their surroundings, their Lodge-rooms, their annual dues, their indebtedness, their property, and their wants. We should know who are the destitute in the State—not by name, but by number; how many Masons' widows, orphans, and dependents, in decay or want, that are entitled to our protection. This and other valuable information

we can gather by having proper questions and blanks in our returns for Lodges to fill up, and an edict requiring said information to be given.

One source of annoyance or disquiet with several of the Lodges in this State the past year has been in occupying a Lodge-room or hall in common with other organizations. It is true that this Grand Lodge has recommended that Masonic Lodge-rooms should only be used for Masonic purposes; yet, in many Lodges, this recommendation and the will of a minority have been ignored and ill feelings engendered. It may, therefore, be well for this Grand Lodge to require a two-thirds—perhaps a unanimous—vote on the part of Lodges where such questions arise in the future.

I would here suggest a remedy for Lodges that may have the misfortune to have their Charters lost, defaced, or destroyed. As matters now exist, the Grand Lodge can furnish no copy of original Charters, and old Lodges have been obliged to work under new Charters, when proper authority, under certified copies of the old, would be much more desirable. Let the Grand Secretary be required to copy, in a well-bound book, all the Charters of Lodges in the State now in existence. It will prove a valuable record, and as the Secretary is amply paid for such work, it will be no material expense to this Grand Body.

By reference to our Constitution, it will be seen that our Grand Lodge cannot be convened outside of Nashville. The Grand Masters, in years that have passed, not only in this, but all other Grand Jurisdictions, have had the power to convene special sessions of their Grand Lodges whenever and wherever, in their jurisdictions, they thought it expedient. In the laying of corner-stones, dedicating of Masonic temples, and constituting of Lodges, it is the custom and usage to open a Grand Lodge. Why should Tennessee, in this respect, be different from all other jurisdictions? and why should we change what may be considered a landmark? I do not make this suggestion that we may have more frequent public or private displays, for, on the contrary, I would have less; but when we do appear in public as Masons, let us conform to ancient usage, have the proper authority, and exert more care and labor in our ceremonies and general appearance.

At the last session of our Grand Lodge, the Committee on accounts reported something over seventeen hundred dollars in the Treasury. The Grand Secretary informed me that he would not be able to print the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge until near the commencement of our present session, as he needed the funds then on hand to pay his salary as fast as it accrued. Not feeling satisfied with so long a delay, and knowing that the Lodges of the State would have just cause to complain, I took the record and papers of the Grand Secretary and wrote out the Proceedings, as best I could, except the tabular statements furnished by the Grand Secretary, and had them printed. To do this De Soto Lodge, No. 299, at Memphis, kindly and fraternally came to my aid, and loaned the Grand Lodge the money to pay for the same, at a rate of interest less than they could have secured from reliable persons who desired the loan. The note of the Grand Lodge was given, and falls due this day, and without objection the same will be paid."

We heartily agree with the following resolutions. It should be the bounden duty of every brother to vote against any candidate who may come within this category :—

"WHEREAS, A feeling of uneasy disquiet prevails among the members

of this Grand Body in regard to the subject of electing Grand Officers, it being thought by some that brethren have used improper means to have their names put forward for positions :

1. It is therefore declared to be the feeling of this Grand Lodge that the offices of this Grand Lodge should be the free, voluntary gift of members, uninfluenced by ulterior considerations.

2. It is declared to be unmasonic for any brother to declare himself a candidate, or to use, or cause to be used, any influences to advance his own election."

The business transacted was purely local and needs no comment.

All petitions for new lodges are in future to be signed by at least 15 M. M. *bona fide* residents of the jurisdiction where the lodge is to be located.

Grand visitors are to be appointed for each Congressional District, and they are to meet for rehearsal before visiting the lodges.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

M. W. Bro. J. C. Cawood, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John Frizzell, G. Sec'y.

TEXAS—1875.

Annual Communication (39th) held at Houston, June 2nd, 1876.

M. W. Bro. Thos. R. Bonner, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Geo. H. Bringhurst, G. Sec'y.

The address of the Grand Master covers nearly 20 pages of small type. He says they have now nearly 400 Lodges, and about 20,000 members ; that Masonry in Texas "has established for itself a high standard of morality, and justly commands the respect of our citizens." He gives a synopsis of the reports of 14 D. D. G. Masters. In one of these we find the following :—

"Jonesboro Lodge, U. D., made a Mason of one who had lost an arm. When Bro. Rose called attention to the error, the Lodge expressed its regret at the action, and promised amendment by resolution, a copy of which is appended to the report. As is usual in such cases, the excuse rendered is that the applicant was a 'perfect gentleman' in every respect, except the want of an arm. In some localities the ancient regulation, that the candidate 'shall be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body,' is sadly disregarded. It not unfrequently happens that the question is apparently ignored until the degrees are conferred. By the way of palliation, we are then invariably assured that the candidate is a man whose moral character and standing is beyond reproach ; in fact, we are sometimes induced to believe that the misfortune of being maimed always happens to the best men only. I am clearly of opinion that unless obedience to this regulation is more rigidly enforced, it will soon cease to be observed altogether."

He issued 13 dispensations for new Lodges, and refused a number of others, as he found that the applications were coming in too rapidly. He suggests that 15 or 20 should be the minimum number of applicants for a new Lodge instead of only seven. He ordered the suspension of a W. M. who denied the divine authenticity of the Bible. On this he says :—

“To my mind, there is a total repugnance in requiring a candidate to declare his belief in the divine authenticity of the Bible, and then be at once ushered into the presence of a Worshipful Master who denies this indispensable pre-requisite, and receive the degrees from him. There is no intention on the part of the Grand Lodge to inculcate sectarianism ; on the contrary, Masonry openly disclaims any purpose to interfere with the religious opinions of its votaries ; still, our institution is so intimately connected and interwoven with the Bible itself, and that Great Book of Books is so universally acknowledged by the civilized world as the revealed will of God, that no man, in this country, at least, should ever be made a Mason who repudiates it, much less should be permitted to preside over a Lodge.

The Indian—who knows nothing of the Bible, and nothing of God, save as he sees Him in the rolling sun, the changing moon or the twinkling stars—the Mahomedan and Hindoo may all make good Masons in their respective localities ; but in Texas we seek no Masonic fellowship with any man who denies a belief in the Divine authenticity of that Book which we take as the rule and guide for our faith and practice, nor with him who repudiates that God, in whom we are early taught, as Masons, to put our trust.”

He strongly condemns lotteries and gift concerts, as being contrary to the laws of the State, besides being sinful and wrong. We copy three of his numerous decisions :

“A Lodge cannot assess a tax of \$20, or any other sum against its members to build a hall, unless authorized by the provisions of its by-laws. The amount and manner of collecting Lodge dues proper, is left to the discretion of each Lodge, but this does not authorize the levying of a large assessment for other purposes than the necessary current expenses of the Lodge. But, a resolution to assess such a tax against each member, after full notice and discussion, having been unanimously adopted, is binding upon all who assented to it. The Lodge hall having been built upon the faith of this voluntary assessment, I held that a member, in good pecuniary circumstances, who assented to the resolution and afterwards refused payment, subjected himself to punishment therefor.

“A party petitioned Dallas, No. 412, some years ago, and was rejected. Afterwards, he visited England for a short time. On his return he stated that he was then a Mason, and exhibited cards, letters, etc., showing that he had received the degrees in Liverpool. I decided that the W. M. of No. 412 did right in refusing him permission to visit the Lodge, or recognizing him as a Mason. While we may not be able to control the action of Lodges in other jurisdictions, in this matter, we can refuse to recognize their sight-made Masons. If we adhere to the rule, it will greatly check this pernicious practice.

"Has a member the right to reject an applicant for affiliation, unless he is in possession of such facts as will sustain a charge against the applicant of unmasonic conduct? and ought not the member at once to prefer the charge, and bring the applicant to trial? This question is so susceptible of easy answer, that I did not intend to mention it, but one of a similar import has been so often propounded to me, that I conclude to do so. The Constitution declares that such ballots shall be had, and that all the members present shall vote. If they were required to vote in the affirmative, then the ballot would be but a foolish formality. The right to vote implies the right to cast a white or black ball, and this vote can no more be inquired into than a vote on petition for initiation. An applicant for affiliation may be a 'contrary' man, or one of extreme prejudices, or he may be governed by the 'rule or ruin' policy, or have other objectionable traits, and yet not be guilty of any offence which would ordinarily subject him to Masonic trial. I do not think the right to affiliate should ever be denied on frivolous grounds; still each member is the sole judge of his duty in the premises, and from his action there is no appeal."

There are 348 Lodges, returning 17,759 members. Initiations 1,253. Dues \$12,134 50. The total receipts were \$21,859 57; payments \$19,970 91. Of these the sum of \$12,000 was paid on account of the Grand Lodge debt.

Wyoming was recognized, and action deferred as to Indian Territory.

Affiliation fees were abolished.

On work, the Committee believe that the election of Grand Lecturers is not only the best but the only mode of securing uniformity. It was decided to have a Grand Lecturer with a salary of \$2,000, and four Deputy Grand Lecturers at \$1,200 each. To meet these salaries, a special tax was ordered to be levied on the Lodges of 25 cents for each member. The Grand Lecturer is to generally supervise and assist in the distribution of the work and lectures, under the direction of the Committee on Work, and is to receive pay only for such time as he is actually engaged. The State is to be divided into four districts, each Deputy Grand Lecturer to have charge of one. They are to visit every lodge at least once a year, and impart the correct work.

This is certainly a most excellent plan, and will doubtless secure the desired result. It is far superior to our system and is well worthy of our careful consideration. Our District Deputy Grand Masters are supposed to perform all the duties of Deputy Grand Lecturers (and many of them actually do perform them), not only without any remuneration for loss of time, but at the further sacrifice of money out of pocket in paying their travelling expenses. We think this is rather more than they should be asked to do.

The following report was adopted. We agree with their

conclusions and believe they will be found very advantageous to the Craft.

"Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred certain portions of the M. W. Grand Master's Address, have duly considered the same, and we concur in the recommendation that the number of Master Masons necessary to apply for a Dispensation for a new Lodge should be increased. The Constitution fixes the least number at seven—quite too small a number to form a working Lodge, and we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That hereafter, Dispensations for new Lodges within counties in which one or more Lodges have been organized, shall only be granted upon the application of not less than fifteen Master Masons, and under all the provisions and regulations in relation thereto.

We have also considered the recommendation in relation to the establishment of a uniform mode of voting on all applications for waiver of jurisdiction by one Lodge in favor of another, over all applicants for the degrees, as no rule has been definitely fixed; and as the vote of the Lodge, waiving its jurisdiction in favor of a sister Lodge, not only gives such Lodge the authority to confer the various degrees upon the applicant, if found worthy, but also at the same time, declares that such Lodge knows of no just cause why the applicant should not receive the same, and by its actions virtually recommends the applicant as worthy to receive the benefits of Masonry. In order to establish a uniform rule in such cases, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in all applications for a waiver or transfer of jurisdiction over applicants for the various degrees, the manner of voting thereon shall be by ballot."

Initial steps were taken for the establishment of "The Texas Masonic Orphans' Home," to be erected and supported by voluntary contributions.

A Grand Lodge of Sorrow was held in Memory of P. G. M. Peter W. Gray, and the fraternal dead of 1874.

Bro. M. F. Mott is the author of the report on Correspondence. He reviews the proceedings of 43 Grand Lodges, including Canada for 1874, in an able and interesting manner.

M. W. Bro. Jos. D. Sayers, G. M.; R. W. Bro. Geo. H. Bringham, G. Sec'y.

TEXAS—1876.

Annual Communication (40th) held in Houston, June 7th. The Address of the Grand Master Bro. Joseph D. Sayers rejoices in the prosperity of the Craft throughout the jurisdiction. He however expresses sorrow at being compelled to issue eleven dispensations for new Lodges, and says:—

"I have refused Dispensations in several instances, because it was not made to satisfactorily appear that the buildings in which the Lodges were proposed to be held, were entirely suitable for Masonic purposes; and, also, because of material informalities in the petitions and in the certificates of the recommending Lodges.

There is no doubt that the rapid increase of Lodges, which has marked the history of the Order in this jurisdiction, has been and continues to be rather hurtful and injurious than otherwise.

The reports of your District Deputies strongly justify the opinion that the number of Subordinates, when compared with the numerical strength of the members, and their ability to maintain themselves in such a manner as would be most effective in promoting the best interests of Freemasonry, is altogether too large.

Instead of bringing power, vigor and energy to the mother Grand Lodge, they have become an element of weakness—demanding and needing, instead of contributing support.

It would be far better that Lodges should be prohibited within a distance of twenty miles from each other, and such Lodges be well sustained in every particular, than that they should be as now—with almost an average of a half dozen to the county, the large majority of whom have but a small membership; indifferent buildings; scanty furniture, and that of the most inferior kind; unable to contribute to the relief of the needy and distressed; derelict in the payment of dues, and, worse than all, involved in debt.

Of all the Lodges in this jurisdiction, how many, may it fairly be supposed, are solvent to-day, and how many, without previous warning, could satisfy their present indebtedness, if immediate payment should be demanded? It is a fact which can not be controverted, and to the truth of which our own experience bears positive witness, that no association, of whatever character and in whatever business engaged, can be prosperous and successful if crippled in means and involved in pecuniary embarrassment.

I sincerely believe that, with this difficulty removed, an era of prosperity will begin and continue in this jurisdiction, to which the history of no other Grand Body can present a parallel.

He recommends the publication of a Digest, to be approved by Grand Lodge and distributed to the Lodges. He condemns "Gift Concerts," as having a vicious tendency, and hopes that no Masons will countenance them. His address gives a synopsis of the reports of the District Deputies, thirty in number. On Canada he says:—

"I have a very interesting communication from Bro. Mott, R. W. D. G. M., giving an account of his visit to and reception by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Canada on the 29th of September last. As an officer of this Grand Lodge, he was received in the most cordial and fraternal manner, not only by the Grand Lodge of Canada herself and by her officers and members, but also by our Masonic brethren of that Province generally. Brother Mott writes, in the most pleasant terms, of his treatment while there, and assures me that these brethren are well posted in the Masonic history of Texas, and are familiar with many of the most important events that have transpired amongst us.

We return the Grand Lodge of Canada our heartiest thanks for the cordiality of Bro. Mott's reception, and trust that the Grand Lodge of Texas may have an early opportunity of extending like courtesy and attention to such of our Canadian brethren as may have occasion to visit this jurisdiction."

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted :—

“Resolved, First, that the Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Indian Territory and Wyoming, be recognized and invited to exchange courtesies as is customary.

Second, That the Grand Lodge of Texas fraternally invites the Grand Lodge of Ohio to consider well, whether the substance it now has of Masonic intercourse is not better than the shadow it proposes to reach after.

Third, That this Grand Lodge adheres firmly to the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction. Two Grand Lodges cannot occupy the same field in the American fraternity with its consent.”

From the report of the Committee on Grand Officers' reports, which was adopted by Grand Lodge, we take the following resolutions :—

“Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master appoint one or more suitable brethren to prepare a digest of the decisions and rulings of this Grand Lodge, upon questions of Masonic jurisprudence.

That said Digest shall, as soon as prepared, be submitted to the examination of three Past Grand Masters, to be designated by the M. W. Grand Master, and upon their approval shall be published, together with the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and such other matter as may be deemed advisable, and distributed among the Craft at a price to be determined by said committee of Past Grand Masters, which shall furnish a fair remuneration for the preparation and publication of the work.

“Your committee fully endorse the action of the Grand Master in regard to the Denison lottery enterprise, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the raising of money for any purpose for the use or benefit of Lodges by lotteries, or other gambling devices, is unmasonic and strictly forbidden.

“Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas recognizes the kind feeling exhibited towards her by the Grand Lodge of Canada, in its cordial and fraternal greeting to our R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Marcus F. Mott, and trusts that an occasion will soon occur when this Grand Lodge may reciprocate the distinguished courtesy of our Canadian brethren. That a copy of this resolution be transmitted by the Grand Secretary to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Canada.”

A sentence of expulsion was confirmed by Grand Lodge in a case where the offence charged was publicly denying the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures.

A large amount of local business was transacted.

Canada for 1875 is noticed by Bro. E. H. Cushing in his Report on Correspondence.

M. W. Bro. Marcus F. Mott, Grand Master ; R. W. Bro. G. H. Bringhurst, Grand Secretary.

UTAH—1875.

Annual Communication (4th) held at Salt Lake City, November 9th.

M. W. Bro. Charles W. Bennett. G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Christopher Diehl, G. Sec'y.

All the six Lodges were represented. Initiations, 29 ; Members, 365. Grand Lodge dues received, \$1,180 90 ; amount distributed for charity, \$1,336 00.

In the address of the Grand Master we find the following paragraph with reference to our late Grand Master :—

“The ‘final summons’ has been mercifully withheld from the brethren of our jurisdiction during the past year, only two having been called to their final account. Among those who have gone to their rest, in other jurisdictions, is William Mercer Wilson, at the time of his death Most Worshipful Grand Master of Canada. In his lifetime he was very prominently identified with the Craft in that jurisdiction, and his loss is deeply mourned. His widow is now residing in this jurisdiction. Let us extend to her such sympathy as should be found welling up in every Masonic heart which has freely imbibed the lessons taught in the work in which her late husband sustained such a prominent and noble part.”

He reports the Lodges in a flourishing condition, and well developing the true Masonic virtues. His decisions were :—

“While I have been frequently called upon by officers of Constituent Lodges for advice and instruction, I have only had the following questions presented for decision : First : ‘Is it proper to enter the names of Committees on petitions for degrees in Masonry on the minutes of the Lodge proceedings?’ which I answered thus : ‘Yes ; what shall go on the minutes is completely within the province of the Master under the charge ; it is therefore your province to have general supervision of the duties of the Secretary, to see that nothing improper is committed to paper, etc., etc.’”

The question and answer as above given, are condensed, but the complete correspondence is filed with the Grand Secretary.

SECOND—Question ; Has the Worshipful Master the right to request visiting Brethren to retire if he has private business before his Lodge ?

Answer : Yes ; The W. . M. . has the right to ‘rule and govern’ his Lodge as he may think proper for the benefit of the same, not violating general Masonic law.

THIRD—Question ; Can a Brother sit in a Lodge while charges are pending against him ?

Answer ; Yes ; he has the right. It is simply a matter of his own taste and discretion.”

And on their Library he says :—

“Thanks to the untiring efforts of our Right Worshipful and able Grand Secretary, (who is also Librarian), our Grand Lodge Library has grown as if by magic. If there is anything of which we should be prouder than of having such a Secretary and Librarian, it is that we have succeeded so well with our Library. It has been thought by some

that the cost of constantly recruiting it, was more than we could afford ; but far above the cost is the value of the knowledge which we, and those who shall come after us, may gleam from the records, made by the wise and good, who have wrought in the great fields of thought, for the benefit of all who will study and reflect.

At present most of our books treat of Masonic subjects, and it would be hard to find a more complete collection. An extension of the plan will soon make the Library embrace books of Science and general literature, with history, biography and the like. If you will take the scheme to your good masonic hearts, and fasten it, I can foresee that the time will speedily come when brethren who may be among us, far from the sacred influences of happy homes, seeking fortunes in our Rocky Mountain treasure vaults, and our own young men who are liable to the thousand temptations of the frontier life, may be shielded from evil by the kindly influences which our Library of the future may offer them. But should you think this, my vision, too highly tinted with the rosy hue, you will agree that every Mason should industriously store his mind with useful knowledge, and that so far as we can, we should encourage all to do so, and render all the aid in our power to that end."

The Grand Secretary is an admirable Librarian, but it seems that he does not receive our *Craftsman*, as it does not appear in his list of Masonic periodicals. We quote a part of his report :—

" There have been added during the last year 86 volumes, of which 40 are Proceedings of Sister Grand Lodges, 23 miscellaneous Masonic works, and 23 on Utah and Utah affairs, making a total for the three years of 265 volumes. Among the books added are the very best and most valuable known in Masonic literature, and if, hereafter, any Brother in Utah complains of not having anything to read on Masonry, or fails to inform himself of the history, the laws, or the different rituals of the institution, and shows himself an *ignoramus*, then I want to have it distinctly understood that it is his own fault and not the fault of the Grand Librarian.

With the various publications on Utah and Utah affairs, I had far better success than I anticipated. Several of these books were published in England, and others were very scarce and hard to get. I cannot deny that I am proud of this collection, for I know that the time will come when they will be of great value, and eagerly looked for and searched. As far as I can learn we lack only a few volumes, and they have been promised."

The Grand Lecturer advised that his office should be made elective, and that the term of office should be extended to 20 years, or during good behavior, in order to secure a uniform work and to " forever silence schisms," but his suggestions were not adopted.

Recognition was extended to Wyoming, Dakota, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, but Indian Territory was postponed.

On the question of incorporating the Grand Lodge the following report was adopted. We commend this action, and are of opinion that they had better leave it alone altogether:—

"Your Committee on Unfinished Business, find but one matter requiring its attention, namely: The incorporation of this Grand Lodge. But in consideration of our anomalous surroundings, and the peculiar construction of the Territorial Legislature, we would respectfully recommend that the matter be postponed until some future, and we hope, more opportune time."

The Grand Secretary reviews in an able manner the proceedings of 50 Grand Lodges, including Canada for 1874. He says Freemasonry is not an "Order,"—it is a "Fraternity" or an "Institution," and that Lodges should not be called "Subordinate," but "Constituent." In which we are not prepared to agree with him. We are, strictly speaking, a "Fraternity," or "Brotherhood," but we are an "Order" as well, in the sense of being a "Division of men," or "Society," and the word "Subordinate," as "inferior in dignity and importance," expresses the relation of Lodges to Grand Lodge far better than "Constituent," which simply means "having the power of constituting or appointing."

M. W. Bro. Edmund P. Johnson, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Christopher Diehl, G. Sec'y.

VERMONT—1875.

Annual Communication, held at Burlington, June 9th.

M. W. Bro. Nathan P. Bowman, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Henry Clark, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Master in his address as to the condition of Masonry says :

"During the past year no new Lodges have been constituted. Numbering now one hundred, and so located throughout the state as to well accommodate the brethren, it is hoped that, for some time at least, the number will not be increased. It is no indication that Masonry is not flourishing because of no further increase of Lodges, but, on the other hand, that it is growing stronger by concentration and strengthening the old Lodges instead of dividing them into many weak Lodges."

According to another paragraph the glorious orb of night, has been naughty enough to cause some confusion in Lodges, whose meetings depend on her serenity's illustrious will and pleasure :—

"I would suggest to all Lodges whose by-laws are affected by the moon to amend them so as to hold their stated communications on some particular day of the week, without regard to changes of the moon. The moon had but one freak the past year sufficient to disturb the Lodges in this jurisdiction. I received a communication from Tucker Lodge informing me that their by-laws required the officers to be elected "Wednesday on or preceding the full moon," and, according to their astronomical calculations, it fullled precisely at 12 o'clock on Tues-

day night, and asked for instructions. On referring to my almanac I found it fuller two minutes past 12 o'clock. Thereupon I ordered them to hold their election on the following Wednesday evening."

We also quote some of his decisions :—

"DECISION 1. Objections to the advancement of an entered apprentice or fellow craft should be based upon good and sufficient reasons ; if it was for offences before initiation, a committee should be appointed ; if after initiation, charges should be preferred.

2. No rescinding vote can be had in case of a ballot when a candidate has been once declared rejected.

3. Members of a Lodge who become petitioners for a new Lodge are liable for dues to the date of the dispensation, and the old Lodge retains penal jurisdiction of them for the purpose of collecting the same, even after the new Lodge is constituted.

4. It is competent for the Master or Warden, who is entitled to preside in a Lodge, after congregating the Lodge, to call to the Chair any Master Mason, and such Master Mason may then preside and confer the degrees, the presence and consent of said Master or Warden being sufficient to establish such work, legal and regular.

5. It is the right of any member of the Lodge to request a dimit, and, if expressed in respectable and proper language, the Master should entertain the request and submit it to the Lodge for action. The sufficiency of the reasons for requesting it, under the resolution of 1873, must be determined by the Lodge."

A resolution of condolence was passed on the death of our late Grand Officers.

Memorial Services were held in honor of Bro. George Mortimer Hall, P. G. M., who died August 24th, 1874.

From the report of the Grand Secretary, we learn that :—

"The Lodges have done little work during the Masonic year. Twenty-one Lodges have done nothing. Forty-two have taken one initiate each, and so on—two, three and twelve. The returns show really a decline in the jurisdiction at large, but the spirit of Masonry is still abroad. The depression of labor and the financial stringency have undoubtedly retarded, in a measure, the increase of members. The correspondence with other Grand Lodges has been very large during the past year, requiring a large amount of time to be devoted to it. As our years increase and our importance and rank is understood, the burden of this department will become heavier. Much of the correspondence is historical, which requires time and care to make a proper and intelligent response.

Among the encouraging signs of the times is the formation of two Masonic unions for the promotion of acquaintance and social intercourse between the families of Masons—thus bringing the fraternity into ties of brotherly regard. This move cannot fail, when rightly appreciated, to prove beneficial to the craft throughout the State.

The union of feeling between Brethren of different sections is another good sign of the prosperity of Masonry in this jurisdiction, and I trust this may be encouraged in all sections of the State. Nothing is more promotive of this union of feeling than the visitation of Lodges to each other, which is not a burdensome task but always proves a pleasant

service. Let Lodges visit each other, and thus, by mutual acquaintance and interchange, breathe the true spirit and purpose of our beloved institution."

There are 100 lodges, reporting 269 initiations, and 8,396 members.

The report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary, and notices our proceedings for 1874.

Grand Officers re-elected.

VIRGINIA—1875.

Annual Communication held at Richmond, December 13th.

M. W. Bro. Wm. B. Taliaferro, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John Dove, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Master delivered an excellent address. His opening remarks are well worthy of attention :—

"We represent the craft in Virginia—a land, the most ancient in the civilization of this continent—the first to receive the rays of Masonic light from the Eastern sun, and to radiate and diffuse them Westward with the star of Empire.

We are the constituents of a grand assembly now verging upon its centennial period ; which is hallowed by the purest and proudest recollections and associations of the past history of our institution in America ; of a grand body over which George Washington, the *pater patriæ*, was called to preside, and over which the gavel of authority was held by the hand of that pure and illustrious patriot and jurist, the great Chief-Justice John Marshall.

We sit in places once occupied by the conscript fathers of Masonry, our honored ancestors, the types of Masonic fidelity and of the chivalric manhood of the Old Dominion. And we have now among us some of the Nestors of our Order,—one, our venerable and venerated brother, the oldest Grand Secretary in the world.

These recollections of our past affords us another Virginia text-book of Masonry—to inspire us by its teachings with the determination to discharge the trust committed to us with a fidelity worthy of our former history ; to preserve our institution inviolate : to magnify and exalt its dignity and its influence ; and to impress upon the world, by our own conduct, the truth of its pious and noble precepts.

Free Masonry is the representative of the truest and most catholic conservatism the world has ever seen—knowing no nationality—free from all political affinity ; the evangelist of religion but untrammelled by the bonds of sect or schism—through the long ages of its peaceful course, its mission has been to harmonize and humanize mankind. Recognizing the distinctions of rank and social standing ; yielding unquestioned obedience to the civil laws ; always respecting place and power ; and even rendering homage to greatness and to worth, our institution has embraced and brought together men of every rank and class and clime and country and religion, and so mingled and united, them, from Sovereign down to subject, upon the broad level of the tessellated pavements of her temples, that the rough corners of prejudice and intolerance

have been broken off and rounded, and the *rough* ashlers made perfect ashlers of toleration, forbearance and brotherly love.

But a few days ago a Brother, the prospective Sovereign of an Empire, on which the sun never sets, performed certain Masonic rites in the distant land of India. Parsee, Hindoo, Mahomedan, Jew and Christian, European and Asiatic, thronged in full clothing of the Craft to participate in the ceremonies of the occasion—and whilst the native princes had been slow to honor the heir expectant to a throne, the native Masons were emulous and eager to pay respect and homage to the Grand Master and Prince of England. What an illustration of the conservatism of Masonry.

It is a patriotic duty then—something immeasurably higher than any of the aims of parties or of politicians—to preserve and conserve this great conservator; to purify and make it as perfect as human weakness dare attempt; and this can be done best, if not done only, by guarding the approaches to the citadel of our power.

When a Roman citizen presented himself at the *comitia* as an aspirant for public honors, and sought the suffrages of the people, he was required to clothe himself in robes of spotless white, to typify his purity of character—he became *candidatus*, or one clad in white, a *candidate*. Let our candidates for Masonic preferment be *candidati*—clothed in the moral garments of spotless white—and let none enter within the ivory portals of our Lodges whose lives may stain or defile them."

He issued Dispensations for 13 new Lodges during the year, and refused several others because the requirements of Grand Lodge were not fully complied with. He also refused in almost every case to permit the degrees to be conferred out of the regular course and time. On the subject of non-affiliation he discourses sensibly:—

"The subject of the status of non-affiliates, and the relation which they bear to the Craft, is one everywhere, more or less, exercising the Masonic mind, and is well worthy of your serious consideration.

It is a very delicate question—that of the power of a Grand Lodge, limited as it is by the constitutions and great land-marks of Masonry, to enact laws to punish without trial any citizen of the great republic of Free Masonry. A Mason once a Mason, always until death or Masonic extinction or suspension puts a period to existence, has been the dogma long espoused by many; and it would seem to be repugnant to the great principles of our faith, that one who had retired from the active duties of the Craft, after having worked in the quarries with fidelity, and drawn designs upon the trestle-boards with distinction—honored and respected by the profane world, and held free from reproach by his Masonic friends—should be placed upon the same plane with one who has been suspended or expelled; to the extent that he is denied the rights and benefits of Masonry.

A non-affiliate relinquishes many privileges by voluntarily dimitting from his Lodge. He ceases to exercise the right to choose the officers, as well as of being himself promoted to the honors of his Lodge—he has no right to participate with them in the social hours of refreshment and recreation—but that he should be denied the general right of Masonic association, and the privilege of Masonic burial, without any violation of Masonic obligation, seems a departure from the original design of our institution.

I know that these views are not generally received now-a-days. We are told that the drones who do not work should not be fed; that he is no true Mason who does not connect himself with a Lodge, and he cannot expect to enjoy any of the rights or benefits unless he contributes to the common fund. I confess that in my opinion, unless attended with great inconvenience, all Masons should feel it to be a duty to connect themselves with some Lodge, but I would make the Lodges attractive enough by the material which constitutes them, to induce the desire in the minds of non-affiliates to unite with them.

Masonry is governed by universal benevolence and charity; it has no foundation upon pecuniary obligation or reward: it is no 'trades Union' or co-operative community—it existed before the days of the Bounderbys and the Gradgrinds, and the iron age of fact—and to retain and transmit it, in its old time purity, we must discard the compensation, *quid pro quo*, money, and co-operation features from its constitution.

I should be pleased to see the fee for membership abolished, and inducements offered to affiliation, and should this Grand Body continue in the determination to deprive non-affiliates of the benefits of Masonry, so far as they (the non-affiliates) may have the right to demand them, I think it not inconsistent that it should declare that it does not limit the power and rights of the Lodges to bestow upon them, within their discretion, any of the general benefits, which may be temporarily conferred, by virtue of inherent rights in the Lodges themselves."

It was resolved that the Grand Deacons should in future be elected by Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Jurisprudence have the following in their report which was adopted.

"2. They further deem it inexpedient to provide that, if to void a ballot, a petition which has been before a Lodge for one month or more is withdrawn, such withdrawal shall be regarded as equivalent to its rejection. They fear that such a regulation might trammel our subordinate Lodges, which now have full control over the subject, and can best determine according to the circumstances of each case what will most promote the welfare of the craft, and be most conformable to the spirit of our institution.

"4. A brother who has been suspended by a Lodge, but restored to the rights of Masonry, though not to membership in the Lodge which suspended him, cannot obtain a dimit from such Lodge; nor is the same necessary to authorize his application for membership in any other Lodge."

Bro. Stansbury, of Washington, was present and addressed the Grand Lodge in behalf of the National Washington Monument Society. The subject was referred to a Special Committee, who reported against giving any aid to that Society. Their report was concurred in by Grand Lodge, and as it is rather interesting we give it a place here:—

"The monument to the Father of his Country was projected about forty years ago by the patriotic men who thought that the nation should, as a nation, erect a token of their esteem for him by private contributions from the whole nation, every one being asked to give only one

dollar. A large sum was thus raised, and while \$250,000 worth of work is said to have been done on the shaft on raising it to its present height of 178 feet, the impression at that time was that the larger proportion of the money was spent in raising it. Various difficulties arose of such a character as to stop the work. The approach of the Centennial of American Independence has revived the desire for the completion of the work. The Society has been reorganized, and Generals Grant and Sherman are the permanent officers. And we are asked to give of our funds to aid in its completion.

There is no name dearer to us as Virginians, and, as Virginia Masons, than that of George Washington, the great soldier, great general, and the earnest, devoted Mason—the man whose name every man feels honored in calling, and who feels that praise falls back upon himself while praising the one who has no superior in any position, in any nation, and among any people. We have shown this by erecting a noble monument to him in our own loved capital, and in naming county, town, college and Lodges by that great patriotic name. It is natural, therefore, that we should be deeply gratified if the nation shall raise a monument to show what we—Virginia—gave to this nation, to humanity, to the world and its people when we gave for service the immortal Washington.

But Virginia and Virginia Masons have done for his honor all that should be asked of her. Now let the nation do a national work. Let her raise this monument, that the world may see—yea, that our posterity may see—that the nation was grateful for the gift of Virginia—rather the gift of God through Virginia—to the great and free America. The work should be national, and plainly so; and for the honor of America let Congress at once give what is necessary to complete this work, as a part of the preparation to be made by her to show the progress of the nation, not only in science and arts, and church and government, but on that high morality which renders to the patriot the honor due to his memory.

This monument is to be national in name. It should, therefore, be built by the nation, so built that every American may say my money gave aid to its erection; and our children may feel personal interest in its prosecution as the work of every father. And we should say to our representatives in Congress that we wish them to aid in having this work done by Congress as a *national work*. We have no means to give. Our poor, our widows and orphans call for all the money which we can possibly raise. But if we had the money, we would hesitate to give it as a means of relieving Congress, with full ability, from doing her work. The work must be done, will be done, by Congress. We formerly gave aid; the plan failed. We cannot and need not attempt to do it again. It is a national work to be done, and let the nation do it.

We therefore offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we consider it as the proper work of Congress to complete the national monument to the illustrious Washington, which, say thirty years ago, was begun by private enterprise upon the spot selected by Washington himself as a suitable place for a monument to the heroes of the American Revolution; and have the work under contract and under rapid progress at an early day, as a part of the preparation which she is aiding to make for a worthy Centennial celebration of American Independence and American progress.

Resolved, That a copy of this report and resolutions be sent to our Past Grand Master, Col. R. E. Withers, Senator, with a request that he make known to the Representatives of Virginia in Congress that the

Masons of Virginia, in Grand Lodge assembled, hold and believe it to be the duty of Congress, by such appropriations as are necessary to complete at an early day the projected monument to him whom the world delights to honor."

Reports were submitted by 36 District Deputy Grand Masters, giving full particulars in regard to the Subordinate Lodges, which are generally in a good condition.

From the Table of Statistics we find there are 183 Lodges making returns, including one Lodge in West Virginia. Members, 9,301.

There is no report on Correspondence.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

WASHINGTON—1875.

A Special Communication was held at Olympia, August 17th, 1875; the special business being the formal reception and welcome of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, who were present to take part in a Masonic Re-union. After the interchange of mutual congratulations, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment. A procession was then formed and marched to the Capitol Ground for the public reception and pic-nic. The further exercises of the day were :—

"ADDRESS OF WELCOME—Thomas M. Reed, Past Grand Master of Washington.

RESPONSE TO ADDRESS—J. N. Dolph, Grand Orator of Oregon.

ORATION—Elwood Evans, Past Grand Master of Washington.

HISTORICAL ORATION—S. F. Chadwick, Past Grand Master of Oregon.
Basket Picnic. * * *

"It will not, however, be inappropriate for us to note the fact here, that a more complete, harmonious and joyous commingling of the brethren and companions, and the friends who were privileged to join the 'happy throng,' could scarcely have occurred with any people under any circumstances of a social character."

Annual Communication (18th) held at Olympia, September 22nd.

M. W. Bro. James R. Hayden, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Thos. M. Reed, G. Sec'y.

Sixteen lodges represented.

The address of the Grand Master is partly taken up with details of their Re-union, as to which we make the following extracts. This new departure is greatly to be commended. We would all be better Masons and able to appreciate more thoroughly the beneficent teachings of our Fraternity were we to visit each other more often than we do. And the fraternal and social intercourse to be had at gatherings of this kind

affords enjoyment and pleasure of the highest and most rational character.

"The year just closed has been to us one of jubilee. Our mother Grand Lodge of Oregon, and our sister the M. W. Grand Lodge of British Columbia, have honored us by a visit, and our Grand Lodge in return, and accompanied by the Grand Lodge of Oregon, were the honored guests of and right royally entertained by the M. W. Grand Lodge of British Columbia, at Victoria, in British Columbia. In another portion of this address this interesting event, this visitation of foreign Grand Lodges, this traveling of the craft into foreign countries, will be more fully noticed."

"On the 16th of August the Oregon Grand Lodge came to Olympia, and on the 17th were officially received with the honors so eminently their due at a Special Communication of this Grand Lodge. A grand procession was formed, P. G. M. Haller acting as Grand Marshal in which all orders of Masons were largely represented, the brethren of the A. A. Scottish Rite, under command of Ill. Bro. J. S. Lawson, 32nd Spec. Dep. S. C. A. A. S. R., acting as the escort, and the display greatly increased by the presence of the Royal Arch Chapter of Oregon. It was a matter of universal regret that our visitors from British Columbia were delayed in their arrival until Wednesday, the 18th, and that Idaho was unrepresented. It was our regret, but we feel too it was their loss. Arrived at Capitol grounds, where a large crowd had anticipated the procession, M. W. Bro. J. C. Ainsworth, one of Oregon's fathers in Masonry, presided over the vast assemblage. The exercises there were intensely interesting, consisting of an eloquent prayer by Grand Chaplain Rev. D. N. Utter, a preliminary address by the President of the day, (Bro. Ainsworth), address of welcome by P. G. M. T. M. Reed, responded to by R. W. Bro. J. N. Dolph, Grand Orator of Oregon. M. W. Bro. Elwood Evans, P. G. M., followed in an address pertinent to the occasion and in general defence of the claims of Free Masonry to popular encouragement and confidence. M. W. Bro. S. F. Chadwick, P. G. M., author of the occasion, treated the fraternity to a history of Masonry on the North-west coast, full of incidents of interest to the craft. On the stand was also P. G. M. Berryman Jennings, first Grand Master of Oregon. A Grand Ball closed this day's exercises. On the morning of the 18th, the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, as also Ill. Bro. J. McCracken, 33d and P. G. M. of Oregon, entered an appearance and participated with us in the grand Clambake. I will not venture to describe this day's performance, I know those who had the privilege to be present will consider it as one of the happiest days of their lives, and more need not be said. In the evening at 8 o'clock the visitors, together with ourselves now as travelers started for a foreign country, accompanied by our glorious brethren of British Columbia, whose guests we now became, and arrived at Victoria on Thursday p. m. The reception was grand, imposing and hearty. The welcome speech of M. W. Bro. Simon Duck, G. M. of British Columbia, was a most eloquent tender of hospitality, and a glorious tribute to Masonry and its agency in securing free institutions and popular freedom.

The grand ball and banquet of that evening was a magnificent display of generous hospitality and we never shall forget the whole-souled attentions of our brethren on Friday morning, and the God speed at parting as we said good-bye on Friday afternoon."

He reports the lodges in a good condition. He issued 2 dispensations for new Lodges.

Some of his decisions are :—

“V. A petitioner who had lost the first joint of the thumb of his right hand, is barred from receiving the degrees of Masonry by ‘Landmark Eighteenth.’

VI. A brother named in the Dispensation for a Lodge U. D. as S. : W. : cannot dimit. He must hold his office in said Lodge until the expiration of the dispensation.

VII. A Lodge U. D., cannot try its members. Charges should be preferred to, and the trial take place in the nearest chartered Lodge.

VIII. An unaffiliated Mason is incompetent to prefer charges against a Master Mason in good standing.

IX. The officers of a Lodge cannot be installed by proxy.”

The Grand Lodges of Wyoming, Manitoba, and Prince Edward Island were recognized.

The rest of the business transacted was purely local in its character, and calls for no special notice.

There are 20 lodges with 713 members. Initiations, 68. Total Grand Lodge dues, \$1,674 00.

Under the restraining order of Grand Lodge noticed in our report of 1875, the report on Correspondence is very brief. Our Proceedings were received.

M. W. Bro. T. T. Minor, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. T. M. Reed, G. Secy.

WEST VIRGINIA—1874.

Annual Communication (10th) held at Wheeling, November 10th.

M. W. Bro. Thos. H. Logan, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. O. S. Long, G. Sec’y.

Sixty Lodges represented out of 63.

The address of the Grand Master is very good. Peace, harmony and prosperity have prevailed throughout their boundaries, and they have been exempt from extraordinary trials. On the ballot, and its use and abuse, Bro. Logan has the following suitable and well-timed remarks :—

“From information which has reached me from various parts of the State, I am impressed that there is among some of our members a misapprehension in regard to the proper use of the ballot. Let me illustrate. A number of brethren are anxious to have a friend made a Mason, or to have one of their number elected to some office in the Lodge. Failing in this they become offended and forthwith seek to obstruct the successful working of the Lodge, and destroy its harmony by rejecting all candidates, without regard to moral or other qualifications, who do not belong to their party. Misapprehension is too mild a term to apply to such conduct. It is a matter of astonishment to me that

brethren can so far forget their duty and their obligations as to take part in such proceedings. If persisted in, there can be but one termination, the destruction of the Lodge, and with it an irreparable injury to Masonry in that locality.

Again. A candidate is proposed for the mysteries of Masonry. He is accepted and initiated, and his proficiency in the degrees taken, approved by an examination in open Lodge. Pending his advancement some brother entertains objections to him, and when the ballot is taken rejects him. Such use of the ballot, on an application for advancement, is clearly in violation of our regulations. If there are sound reasons apart from the question of his proficiency, why a brother should not be advanced, there is a legal and more honorable way to stop him. As an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft he has rights superior to those of a profane; a right to be heard in his own defence, and it is not only dishonorable but cruel to deny him the opportunity of vindication.

I respectfully suggest that inasmuch as occasional trouble has arisen from the abuse of the regulation referred to, requiring a ballot on each degree, the same be amended so as to provide that a majority or two-thirds vote shall determine the question of a candidate's proficiency.

While on the question of the ballot, let me say that its proper use is one of the most sacred and important duties of the craftsman. It was intended to be the guardian of the purity and harmony of the Lodge. It tries not only the reputation of the candidate, but it also tries the motive of him who casts it. Will such motive in all cases bear complacently the scrutiny of the judgment and of a good conscience? If, when we take the ballot into our fingers, we will examine ourselves carefully as well as the character of the candidate, we will not materially err in the discharge of the important duty."

He suggests that Grand Lodge should provide for a permanent educational fund. He does not approve of extraordinary Masonic assemblages gotten up for mere display, but occasional reunions of the brethren of one or more lodges can be made both pleasant and profitable. We also quote as under :

"But work in the ritual is not the only business of a Lodge. Some brethren seem to think that when there are no degrees to be conferred it is not important that they should attend, and now and then we hear of Lodges being opened and immediately closed again, when it was ascertained that no candidates were in waiting. We are convinced that with proper effort on the part of the officers of the Lodge such meetings could be made attractive and profitable. Free Masonry teaches a pure and exalted morality, illustrated by significant symbols, and enforced by an eloquent ritual. Its treasures are not by any means exhausted in the mere perfunctory work of the ritual. However advanced our rank in Masonry, we are still rough ashlers, and our progress towards perfection can only be secured by the patient and persevering application in our daily life in the tenets and cardinal virtues of our profession. The Lodge meeting affords not only an opportunity to study these principles, but also to exemplify them. For instance, Friendship, or, as we call it, 'Brotherly love,'

"Is no plant of hasty growth,
Though planted in Esteem's deep, fixed soil,
The gradual culture of kind intercourse
Must bring it to perfection."

Shakspeare must have had in mind what I would call a model Lodge when he wrote,

"In companions
That do converse and waste the time together,
Whose souls do bear an equal yoke of Love,
There must be needs a like proportion
Of lineaments, of manners, and of spirit,
* * * * * And blest are those
Whose blood and judgment are so well commingled
That they are not a pipe for Fortune's finger
To sound what stop she please. Give me that man
That is not passion's slave, and I will wear him
In my heart's core; ay, in my heart of hearts,
As I do thee."

The growth of true friendship is only one of the objects which we seek in the Lodge. We are to devise plans for the relief of the destitute and unfortunate. Truth is to be inquired after, and the whole train of cardinal virtues beckon us to their fellowship and following."

The D. D. G. M. of the 6th District, in sending in his official report, says:—

"Although not present in person, my heart will be with you,—and hoping that when you meet, your heads will all be *level*; that your actions may all be *plumb*, and that you may succeed in making everything *square* before you part."

The Committee on Jurisprudence found nothing to claim their attention, a fact which was received by the Grand Lodge with much satisfaction

By the adoption of the report of the Grand Committee, several amendments were made to the Constitution; one of these has the effect of relieving the Grand Master from the duty of nominating a candidate for his successor. Others were:—

"*Resolved*, That the form of petition for initiation be so amended as to include the statement of the candidate as to whether or not he has ever made a previous application to any Lodge and been rejected; and if so, when and where.

Resolved, That Art. 7, Sec. 1, Chap. III, of the General Regulations be amended so as to read: In all cases of advancement from one degree to another, it shall be necessary for the brother wishing to be advanced to undergo an examination in open Lodge, touching his proficiency in the degree from which he wishes to be advanced; after which a ballot shall be taken on his proficiency, and if no more than two black balls appear he shall be declared duly elected to receive the degree."

The Special Committee on Education reported the following resolutions, which were adopted by Grand Lodge. This is a good beginning:—

"1. *Resolved*, That the sum of \$150.00 be annually set apart out of the funds of this Grand Lodge for the purpose of aiding in the educa-

tion of the orphans or children of Master Masons within this jurisdiction.

2. *Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the Grand Master to appoint annually a committee consisting of five Past Masters, who shall be charged with the special duty of seeing that said sum of money appropriated as aforesaid shall be judiciously expended for the purpose set forth in the preceding resolution.

3. *Resolved*, That such other sums of money as may hereafter be appropriated for this purpose by this Grand Lodge or by any subordinate Lodge, or which may be given or bequeathed by any person or persons for the purpose of aiding in the education of worthy children of Master Masons within this jurisdiction, shall be set apart as a fund to be called the 'Educational Fund of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia' and invested under the direction of the Grand Lodge in some safe security, and the interest arising therefrom annually shall likewise be used by the committee provided for in the second resolution aforesaid, for the purpose indicated in said resolution.

There are 63 lodges, with 3,113 members. Initiations, 327; receipts, \$2,467.32.

No report on Correspondence.

M. W. Bro. Robert White, G. M.; R. W. Bro. Odell S. Long, G. Sec'y.

WEST VIRGINIA—1875.

A Special Communication was held in Parkersburg, May 1st, 1875, for the purpose of laying the Corner Stone of the United States Court House and Post Office.

Another at Wheeling, on Sept. 18th, to lay the Corner Stone of a Capitol Building for the State.

Annual Communication (11th) held at Wheeling, Nov. 9th.

M. W. Bro. Robert White, G. M.; R. W. Bro. O. S. Long, G. Sec'y.

All the Lodges were represented, which speaks well for the zeal and interest of the brethren.

The address of the Grand Master is brief but practical. He decided as follows:—

"In November last, in answer to a communication from Randolph Lodge, No. 55, I decided that an applicant whose left leg was about 2½ inches shorter than the right did not, in my opinion, possess that perfection of external manhood essential to the qualification of every candidate for Masonry.

In answer to a communication from Ashton Lodge, No. 12, I expressed the opinion that a person with but one eye was not eligible as a candidate for Masonry.

In reply to a communication from Equality Lodge, No. 44, I expressed the opinion that a Lodge, at any regular meeting, might, for good cause, by a unanimous vote, relieve a brother suspended for non-payment of dues, although it may have theretofore refused so to do. By reference to the correspondence submitted, you will see that this is a question which should receive consideration and be finally put at rest by your decided action.

Several dispensations were asked for to confer degrees in cases claimed to be those of 'emergency.' I fully concur in the views expressed upon this subject by our former Grand Masters and declined to accede to these requests."

He issued four dispensations for new lodges.

The D. D. G. M. of the 1st District reports as to one lodge in these terms :—

"*Liberty Lodge No. 26.*—This Lodge has been laboring under great disadvantage during the past year on account of financial embarrassment, it being compelled by a decree of the Circuit Court to pay a debt and costs amounting to over \$800.00. Said debt was paid once before by a draft on a bank, which failed during the time the payee carried the draft in his pocket. I am pleased to state that the Lodge is temporarily relieved, by having paid part out of Lodge funds and borrowing balance on good time, which it is hoped will be ultimately paid off, without injury to any brother. The Lodge did a little work, and had some increase of membership. Average attendance at communications is good. Peace and harmony prevail."

The Special Committee on Education presented the following report :—

"Brethren, for some years past earnest and philanthropic Freemasons in West Virginia have felt that some wider scope should be given to the benevolence which is the corner-stone of our revered institution, than was possible to the Lodges in their individual and segregated capacity. Our brethren in other States are erecting and endowing colleges for the free education of the children of Masonic sires, or providing homes where the widows or orphans of the fraternity may be sheltered and protected. In nearly every other of the Masonic Grand Lodges of the United States is there some such benevolent institution, maintained by the voluntary contributions of men who have connected themselves with the Masonic fraternity, 'animated by a sincere desire of being serviceable to their fellow men.' In West Virginia we have hitherto been content with the development of the minor benefits of the institution; the promotion of true brotherhood between the members of our Lodges; benefits which accrue mainly to ourselves and are in their nature more selfish than benevolent. Good and true Masonry has a wider aim, a broader scope. It looks first to the happiness of the household of the faithful, but contemplates also the good of the whole human race.

Feeling that the fraternity in West Virginia is as yet too weak, both in numbers and in wealth to establish and conduct successfully a school for the education of the young or a home for the maintenance of the old; and yet believing that it is capable of accomplishing more good than has yet been done through its agency, Brother Martin, President of the West Virginia University, addressed a letter to the Grand Master which was read at the last communication of the Grand Lodge, proposing a plan for the extension of the benefits of the Masonic fraternity in this State. In pursuance of that plan, which received the unanimous approval of the Grand Lodge, this committee was appointed, and an appropriation of \$150 was made from the funds of the Grand Lodge in immediate furtherance of the purpose indicated.

Brother Martin's suggestion, which, it may be added, meets with cordial approval by the committee, is that the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Dollars be annually loaned, without interest, from the funds of the Grand Lodge, to the son or daughter of a Master Mason in this State, to be approved by a committee of the Grand Lodge, to be devoted to the education of the person so benefitted. And also that an educational fund be established by voluntary contribution from the several Lodges in the State, the interest on which shall be annually applied in the same way.

Your committee respectfully beg the attention of the Representatives of the Subordinate Lodges to the propriety and importance of an early establishment of the permanent fund referred to.

An appropriation of \$5 to \$20 per annum by each Lodge, the amount to be governed by their ability, would soon constitute a respectable fund, the interest of which would aid the direct appropriation made by the Grand Lodge. Such a fund once established, would attract the attention of benevolent individual Masons, who would no doubt make it the avenue through which to send their offerings in aid of those who under difficulties may be seeking an education.

Your committee desire to report that they have loaned \$100, the amount appropriated at the last Annual Communication, to the son of a Master Mason, John S. Boyers, a student at the University of West Virginia, highly recommended by the President of that institution. His note for that amount, payable in five years, without interest, is in possession of the Grand Treasurer. Your committee would request that the Representatives of Subordinate Lodges present would furnish them with a memorandum of the higher educational institutions in their respective jurisdictions, with the address of the chief officers of the same, and also with the names and history of any orphans or children, male or female, of Master Masons, who would be likely to prove worthy beneficiaries of the Grand Lodge educational fund."

On the subject of non-affiliation it was resolved :—

"That any non-affiliated Mason residing within this Grand Jurisdiction, and who has been unaffiliated for more than one year, shall be deprived of pecuniary aid, the right to visit, Masonic burial, or participation in any Masonic procession, unless he shall have petitioned the Subordinate Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides for admission, and still remains subject to the government of the Fraternity."

We also extract the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted by Grand Lodge :—

"Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence beg leave to submit the following report upon the subjects referred to them by the Grand Lodge :

Has a Lodge the right to refuse a dimit to a brother paying his dues and assigning no reason for asking for the same ?

Your Committee are compelled to answer this question in the negative. To affirm such a right would include the idea of enforced or compulsory membership, a relation which, 'even if practicable, would certainly be of no benefit to either party.' At the same time we take occasion to say that we cannot see how any brother, clearly appreciating his Masonic obligation, can ask for a dimit under such circumstances.

Can an officer elect of a Subordinate Lodge, who fails to be present at

the time the other officers are installed be installed at a subsequent communication?

To this question we answer, that if the By-Laws of the Lodge provide for installation at a stated period, any officer elect failing to appear at that time cannot be subsequently installed without a dispensation. We recommend that Lodges make provision in their By-Laws for emergencies of this character.

Can an officer of a Subordinate Lodge be installed by proxy?

We answer in the Negative.

We approve the decision of D. D. G. M. Riley to the effect that if a brother under suspension for non-payment of dues dies within a year from date of his suspension, the payment of his dues by another brother, after death, does not reinstate the deceased, or entitle him to Masonic burial.

We approve generally the decisions of the Grand Master, as submitted in his address, so far as referred to this committee.

We have examined such By-Laws of Subordinate Lodges as were placed before us. We have marked out such portions as seemed to us not in accordance with our Regulations.

In the By-Laws of Ohio Lodge, No. 1, we find a provision for life membership, by the payment of a sum of money, which is intended to take the place of annual dues. There is nothing in our Regulations to forbid such action on the part of a Subordinate Lodge. A majority of your committee are of the opinion that it is inexpedient to introduce into this jurisdiction the plan of life membership.

Article 9, of the By-Laws of Moorefield Lodge, reads as follows:

'Any member may withdraw himself from this Lodge on producing the Secretary's receipt for all dues, and giving notice to the Lodge, either personally or by proxy.'

Your Committee regard this article as unmasonic. We submit that membership in the Lodge can be terminated only by suspension, expulsion, dimission or death."

Seventy-two lodges return 275 initiations, and 3,236 Members. Receipts \$2,507 75.

The report on Correspondence does not appear in the proceedings, nor does any appear to have been prepared or presented; although both in this year and 1874 we notice that the Finance Committee recommend the "continued payment of the salaries heretofore paid to the Grand Secretary and Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence? How is this Brother Long? We would like to hear from your Chairman.

M. W. Bro. Kephart D. Walker, G. M.; R. W. Bro. Odell S. Long, G. Sec'y.

WISCONSIN—1875.

Annual Communication (31st) held at Milwaukee, June 8th.

M. W. Bro. J. P. C. Cottrill, G. M.; R. W. Bro. Geo. E. Hoskinson, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Master mentions the death of Henry S. Baird,

P. G. M. ; also that of Bro. S. A. Ferrin, Grand Marshal, who "received the symbolic Degree in St. Thomas Lodge, No. 232, Canada, in 1853, and removed to Wisconsin in 1857."

Bro. Cottrill took prompt action in nullifying the nefarious design to swindle the Craft through the androgynous degree of the "Eastern Star." He thus reports :—

"In July, 1874, the Masters of several of the subordinates applied to me by letter for advice and directions, stating that they had received printed circulars addressed to their Lodges from a person, whose name I omit here as he has since died, notifying them that he would visit their Lodges on certain days designated, in order to organize, what he termed, 'Chapters of the Eastern Star.' I gave the matter immediate attention and thorough investigation. I found that an organization under a somewhat different name and like this proposed concern in some aspects, had existed, and had been tolerated by the Grand Orient of France during the last century, but that it had decayed and died there. In somewhat different shape it appeared to have been revived in this country, and the effort was to import it into this jurisdiction, in order that its projector might 'put money' in his purse. A personal interview with him brought from him the open—and as it seemed to me—the dishonest avowal, that his object in disseminating it was to enable him the better and more conveniently to sell books, &c., that he was engaged in retailing. He stated that he cared nothing for it, but that by meeting the brethren assembled together in one place, and at their Lodge rooms to hear him lecture, and receive this new order, he was enabled thereby to sell his wares more conveniently, and that he was thus saved the time and trouble of calling on each separately. In short, his object at the bottom was to sell his goods, to spend his evenings pleasantly at the profit to himself of thirty dollars for each charter granted, which charters signed in blank he carried with him; and this he proposed to do in the name of and as an attachment or appendage to Freemasonry. I at once stated to him that his project could have from me only disapproval and discountenance; that I believed the sentiment of this Grand Lodge was against any such concern; and that our Constitution and standing regulations positively forbade it. He assured me finally that he would abandon the business in this jurisdiction, but feeling no especial confidence in any promise made by a man so unworthy, as I was satisfied he was, I caused the following circular to be issued to all the subordinates.

We omit the circular.

"Before my interview with him he had started three of his so-called Chapters. Upon receipt of my circular, two of them at once disbanded as did the third one shortly afterwards; and so this irregular and swindling humbug perished in Wisconsin. Those of the brethren that participated in it I am sure did so in entire good faith; in ignorance of the true character of it and of its pedler, and without intent to evade the regulations of this Grand Lodge, and they cheerfully and promptly submitted to the decision made by me on the subject."

He recommends the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming, but as to the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory and the Grand Orient of Hungary, he says :—

"I have also been officially advised of the formation of a new Grand

Lodge in the so-called Indian Territory. A letter from their Grand Master and Grand Secretary was received by me asking recognition and tendering to me the appointment as their Grand Representative. The latter appointment I declined to accept in advance of their recognition by you; and also because I believe that the presiding officer of any Grand body ought not to accept such an appointment during his term of office. While their formation proceedings appear to be in general conformity with Masonic usage, I am not satisfied that the political condition of the territory over which they claim jurisdiction is such as to admit of the formation of a Grand Lodge within it; and I therefore recommend that recognition, at present, be withheld.

A letter has also been received from the Grand Orient of Hungary asking recognition, and an interchange of representatives. I recommend also that this be withheld. There appear to be two Grand bodies here, namely, the Grand Orient and the Grand Lodge; the former being attached to the A. A. Scottish Rite, and the latter claiming to be the Grand Lodge of Symbolic Masonry. I believe that a Grand Lodge of Symbolic Masonry should extend recognition only to other like Grand Lodges, and not to those attached to other rites, although they may work the Symbolic degrees. In addition, the unsettled and uncertain condition of Masonry in Austria—in parts whereof the meetings of the Lodges are subject to Government surveillance—seem to render it prudent for us to withhold, at present, recognitions to organized Grand bodies there."

Two of his decisions contain new points, and we think they are correct, viz. :—

"A non-affiliate cannot, as of right, prefer charges and insist upon trial of the brother charged; but should such charges be preferred, the Lodge, for the good of the Craft, should investigate them, and if probable cause be shown, charges should then be preferred as provided in the Constitution.

When a petition for the degrees has been "abstracted," the first business and duty of the Lodge is to ascertain, if possible, and then discipline the abstractor; then they may proceed upon a duplicate of the original petition being furnished."

He calls attention to the necessity of a re-print of the proceedings of Grand Lodge; also, to the want of suitable provision for procuring new jewels and aprons for Grand Lodge Officers, recommends assistance to the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, and closes an excellent address with the announcement of the general prosperity and harmony that pervade the Craft in this jurisdiction.

The dues were remitted of two Lodges which had lost their Halls and property by fire, and the jewels supplied to Astrea Lodge, No. 104, "to supply the place of those lost and destroyed during the draft riot in the fall of 1862," were donated to said lodge.

The sum of \$100 was voted to aid a distressed brother, and the same amount to the repair of a Masonic Cemetery.

The following recommendation and resolutions of the Committee on Jurisprudence were adopted :—

“That your Committee recommend that the course and policy pursued by the Grand Master as to “*adoptive Masonry*” or Side Degrees, be approved; and that the Grand Master be authorized to strictly and stringently enforce the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of this Grand Lodge upon the subject of “*Side Degrees*.”

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of the Territory of Wyoming, be, and hereby is, recognized as one of the Grand Bodies of Masonry; and that this Grand Lodge courteously, and with fraternal pleasure, welcome its admission into the constellation of the Grand Bodies of Masonry.

“*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge refuse to recognize the so-called “*Grand Orient of Hungary*” as one of the Grand Bodies of Masonry.”

It was also ordered :—

“That in case of any calamity happening to any community or communities, by pestilence, fire, or from any other cause, the M. W. Grand Master is hereby authorized to donate from the funds of the Grand Lodge, such sum or sums as he may deem adequate for the relief of distressed brethren in such community. Provided, that he shall not donate to exceed one thousand dollars in any one year. He is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer for amounts donated.”

In two cases which were passed upon by the Committee on Appeals, we are not prepared to agree with their conclusions. They are as follows :—

“In the matter of the application of Bro. C. T. Overton, for a hearing in the matter of his expulsion by Melody Lodge, No. 2, your Committee report, that no application having been made for Bro. Overton to be *reinstated* by this Grand Lodge, he is not entitled to a hearing and cannot be benefited by one; they therefore recommend that the request be *not granted*.

“In the matter of the trial and expulsion of Ira P. Richmond from Geneva Lodge, No. 44, the proceedings are not authenticated by the seal of the Lodge.

The charge of adultery. The only evidence produced to sustain the principal charge was the verdict of a jury and judgment of the Circuit Court of Walworth county, in a civil action for damages, brought against the accused for criminal conversation. The accused objected to this evidence, and it was admitted against his objection. Your Committee are of opinion that this evidence was incompetent and should not have been admitted. We recommend that the sentence of the Lodge be *not affirmed*, and that the case be referred back to the Lodge for a new trial.”

We are not disposed to be too particular as to mere matters of form in Masonic trials, so long as the merits of each case can be reached. In the first of the above cases, it appears to us that the Committee took advantage of a pure technicality. We would have presumed that the Brother, in applying for a hearing, meant to appeal against the decision of the lodge,

and if his appeal was allowed his reinstatement would follow as a matter of course.

In the second case the judgment of the Court should have been accepted as sufficient *prima facie* evidence of the guilt of the accused, unless he could show good reason why it should not be so taken. He would also be at liberty to bring evidence in rebuttal of the charge, upon the sufficiency of which, as against the judgment of the Court, the Lodge could then decide.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the retiring Grand Secretary, Bro. Geo. E. Hoskinson, and \$200 voted to him as compensation for extra duties

There are 197 Lodges, with 10,153 members. Initiations, 776. Grand Lodge dues, \$4,582 10.

Bro. George D. Wilber, gives a very good report on Correspondence, in which our proceedings for 1874, are noticed in a very neat and complimentary manner. We copy parts of his opening and closing remarks :—

“In performing this duty we have not been unmindful of the fact that many Masons of ability and experience within this jurisdiction, have frequently expressed serious doubts of the utility of such reports, and would willingly dispense with them altogether. When Wisconsin ceases to belong to the sisterhood of Grand Lodges, and when Wisconsin Masons cease to be interested in the affairs of the Masonic world at large, or become unable or unwilling to learn from others or be benefited by their experience, then let these reports be discontinued; let Grand and Subordinate Lodges be abolished, and let the Fraternity return to its original amorphous condition of the earlier days.

It is said these reports cost more than they are worth; that but few read them, and those who do not are no less wise for their abstinence; and that their chief utility and value lie in the opportunity afforded their writers of passing pleasant compliments with each other, and thus forming a kind of “mutual admiration society.” Knowing all this, we have aimed to abstain from all unnecessary detail and compliment. To this end we have frequently epitomized when the more usual custom would be to quote in full. This has necessitated increased labor at the expense of inclination and convenience.”

“None but those who have wrought in the same field can fully appreciate the amount of persistent labor required to bring out a faithful report of the interesting and important matters annually transpiring in the Masonic world. Despite our ritual, Masonry has an internal growth, adapting itself to the wants of mankind; and it will ever keep pace with human progress, or become effete and obsolete. To make note of this growth from year to year, and repress all unwholesome tendencies, becomes the high duty of Masons. Committees on Foreign Correspondence step in to perform this labor of love to the Craft, not only without hope of fee or reward in many cases, but with the full expectation that their labors, if not viewed with contempt, will at least be unappreciated by many self-satisfied brethren. Nevertheless, it is our deliberate judgment, our own report apart, that more brain work is put into the reports on Foreign Correspondence, than into the whole of the proceedings of

Grand Lodges besides ; and we confess to a profound respect for brains."

A few Grand Lodges publish no reports on Foreign Correspondence ; others publish partial reports only, and those grudgingly ; while most take just pride in them, and do the square thing by their authors. In point of fact, those reports are fair indices of the general character of their respective Grand Lodges."

M. W. Bro. J. P. C. Cottrill, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John W. Woodhull, G. Sec'y.

WYOMING,—1875.

Annual Communication (1st) held at Laramie City, October 12th.

M. W. Bro. Edgar P. Snow, G. M. ; R. W. Bro. John K. Jeffrey, G. Sec'y.

All the four Lodges represented.

The Grand Master delivered a capital address. He visited all the Lodges except one, and reports that the members are taking a deep interest in the work. He says :

"One fact, however, deserves special notice, that the more scattered and remote the members are from the place of meeting, the greater the interest taken ; for instance, in Wyoming Lodge its members are scattered over a radius of one hundred miles or more from the Lodge room, yet at every meeting there is a full attendance, and officers, though residing fifty miles distant, seldom miss a communication.

This speaks volumes for the Lodge, and should serve as a severe rebuke for those members of other Lodges who reside on the very threshold of the Lodge room, and still cannot find time to attend the meetings.

It is very important that the Grand Lodge at its present session, decide upon a standard work.

We are aware that the members of the fraternity in our jurisdiction hail from nearly every State in the Union, and unfortunately there exist many important variations in the work."

"I believe that in no way can so much valuable information be obtained as through the reports of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. Mooted questions are discussed from every conceivable standpoint, grave errors are detected and pointed out, and that spirit of emulation as to who can best work, and best agree, is inculcated.

It seems to me that nothing could be more desirable than that Masons of every clime and nation should be able to speak the same Masonic language, and be governed by substantially the same laws.

Brethren, the report from our Committee will be everywhere demanded, and it is our duty to comply. The additional expense will be but little, and I trust that in future our finances will be so arranged as to meet it."

It was resolved that the Webb-Preston Work be adopted by Grand Lodge, and that a Grand Lecturer be appointed to visit and instruct the Lodges, his expenses being paid by Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge decided to delay action on the recognition of Manitoba and Dakota, "until such time as the Grand Bodies under whose jurisdiction they originally worked, take action."

Grand Officers re-elected.

JAMES SEYMOUR, P. G. M.,
HENRY ROBERTSON, P. D. D. G. M.,
Committee.



POSTSCRIPT.

I deem it but right, both to the Committee and to myself, that an explanation should be given of the delay that has occurred in the preparation and publication of this Report.

In the summer of 1876 its preparation was entrusted to a Brother, who, having had the work in hand for some months, and owing to continued illness having made but little progress, was called to rest.

Thereupon M. W. Bro. Seymour kindly undertook the task of completing the Report, but had only prepared a few pages, when he was compelled, owing to failing health and pressure of official duties, to call to his aid R. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, who was asked to prepare the Review from New Brunswick to Wyoming, both inclusive, M. W. Bro. Seymour believing that he would be able to bring the work up to the point at which R. W. Bro. Robertson was to commence.

R. W. Bro. Robertson speedily finished his portion of the Report, but the continued ill-health of M. W. Bro. Seymour, prevented his completing the link between "Iowa" and "New Brunswick."

At the annual meeting of the Board of General Purposes in February last, R. W. Bro. Robertson was again asked to come to the rescue, and he, without delay, finally completed the Review.

The Report for 1877 is now in course of preparation by R. W. Bro. Robertson, and will be issued during the coming summer.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. J. Mason". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Grand Sec'y.

Hamilton, April 15th, 1878.





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